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New, savage fighting in Beirut; both sides say they're doing well

By ANAN SAFADI
Middle East Affairs Correspondent
The Christians and the PLO-ist alliance said last night that they were locked in a new round of savage fighting on the fronts in Beirut and other Lebanese areas. Both sides said they have inflicted heavy losses on each other, though they appeared to be exaggerating as the Christians used the preservation of the Syrian troops' presence in Lebanon as a reason for their withdrawal. Battles were reported to be fought around two beleaguered Palestinian refugee camps overlooking Beirut's Christian sector to the east. Telephone and telex communications between Beirut and the outside world have been out for five days. Adios belonging to the rival factions are the prime source of news on war-ravaged Lebanon.

The Christians said that their forces were "in good shape on all fronts," while the PLO and leftists said that they were "holding out all." Beirut Radio, which supports outgoing President Suleiman Franjeh, charged that the Lebanese capital part of the Arab League's peacekeeping force were fighting alongside the PLO and leftists in Beirut. The radio further claimed that the PLO-leftist camp was yesterday so joined by "Iraqi forces" though failed to say how the latter troops reached Beirut. The radio also had meant pro-Iraqi forces thin Lebanon's leftist militias. The leftist radio in Beirut as well as the Cairo-based PLO radio said at the "isolationist" Christian forces have been besieging the eastern refugee camps of Tel el-Zaatar and Jisr el-Pasha but failed in all attempts to storm them. The leftists said that their forces were locked battles with the Christian forces several other fronts in Beirut and elsewhere in Lebanon. The PLO-leftist radio had earlier Friday broadcast messages in de-names, including "the black light" and "the white bird," saying that fighting was mounted "on all fronts. We shall be victorious." The PLO yesterday claimed that Syrian troops in Lebanon have renewed their siege of supply routes to the PLO-leftist forces. The PLO addition charged that the Syrians

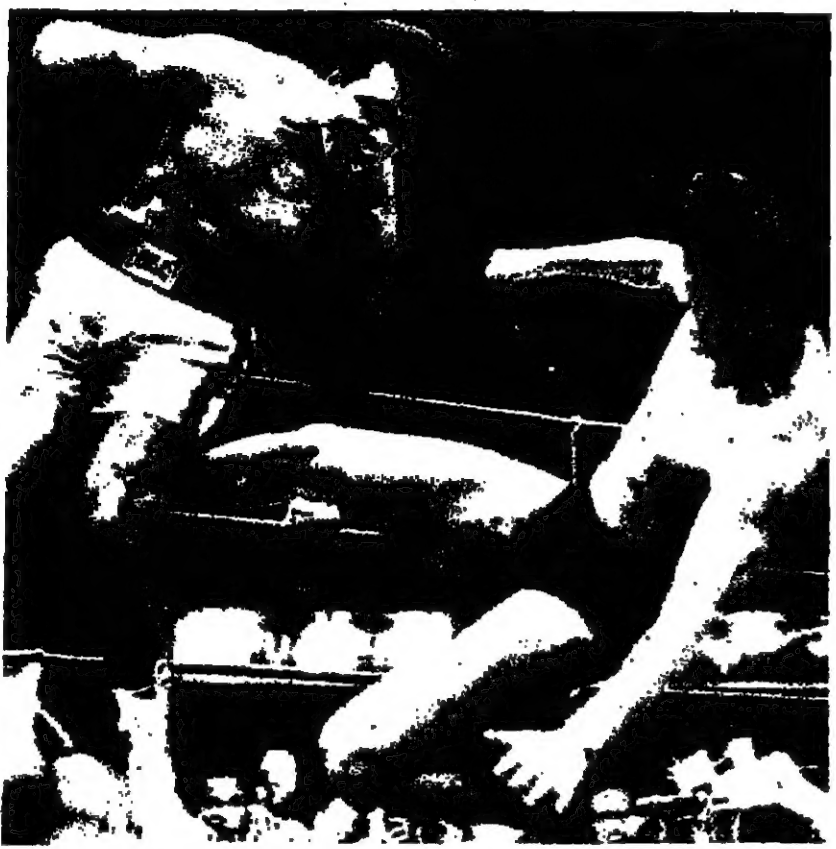
were also stalling on their withdrawal from the environs of the coastal city of Sidon, thus violating an agreement mediated by Libyan Premier Abdul-Salam Jalloud. Lebanon's leading Catholic priest, Maronite Halkim, said in the Vatican over the weekend that the Syrians should stay in Lebanon to help end the country's 15-month civil war, which, he said, was pitting Lebanese against Palestinian foreigners.

Meanwhile, the secretary-general of the Arab League, Mahmoud Riad, yesterday appealed to all factions in Lebanon to stop fighting. Riad said that he was dispatching a special envoy to Beirut to oversee the deployment of more joint Arab "peacekeeping" troops

due to come from Saudi Arabia, Sudan and Algeria, in addition to the Syrians and Libyans now stationed in some of Beirut's districts including the airport.

Riad's appeal was voiced as Christian leaders convened an emergency meeting at Junieh, north of Beirut, under President Franjeh to discuss what was described as the rapidly deteriorating situation in Lebanon.

The Foreign Minister of Kuwait said that his country and Saudi Arabia, both of which mediated last week's reconciliatory meeting between Egypt and Syria, will begin contacts with other Arab states shortly for convening a conference of "reconciliation and dialogue" on Lebanon. (Leader — back page)



Japanese wrestler Antonio Inoki's kick catches Muhammad Ali during the 12th round of their wrestling-boxing exhibition fight in Tokyo yesterday. The match ended in a draw. Story on Page 4. (UPI telephoto)

Children leave Moscow with blood problems

MOSCOW — Two American children living in the U.S. Embassy here have been evacuated to the U.S. after discovery of unusual blood problems. The evacuation, which occurred after this week, came as investigation continued of possible medical effects of microwave radiation aimed at the embassy for more than six months. The children, whose identities are not given, lived in one wing of the 10-story embassy. An embassy spokesman, while confirming evacuation, would give no other details. American officials have said the radiation comes from the Soviet surveillance of the embassy. American sources still insisted that no medical problems have yet been identified and which can be related to the radiation but that investigation is continuing. The radiation problem arises despite repeated protests from the Russians. Most windows in the sprawling embassy have been veined to cut down the radiation.

Assad: Staying in Lebanon

BEIRUT — Syria said yesterday that its troops saved the lives of thousands of women and children in Lebanon. It indicated that Syrian forces would stay there until asked by the Beirut government to leave. President Hafiz Assad told a news conference before leaving for Rumania, where he arrived later in the day: "The withdrawal of our troops from Lebanon depends on the wish of the legitimate institutions in Lebanon, because the presence of these troops was in response to the wish of those institutions."

He added: "We are ready and willing to continue this sacrifice as long as it is in response to the wish

of the Lebanese." The Syrian President left after saying that in talks with President Hafez Assad, he reached agreement on all the matters we discussed. Official sources said the agenda covered Lebanon and other Middle East issues.

In Bucharest, Assad's visit was described by Rumanian news media as a "new stage" in the "continuous intensification of bilateral relations of friendly cooperation" between Rumania and Syria.

The visit was originally scheduled last week but was postponed, probably to allow Assad to make his visit to France. (Reuters)

Iraqi 'conditions' for troops

NICOSIA — Iraq is prepared to send troops to Syria if the Syrian regime endorses a programme for combined military action against Israel, Iraqi President Ahmed Hassan al-Bakr said yesterday. Bakr was addressing the opening session in Baghdad of the popular conference for the support of the Palestinian resistance and the Le-

bane nationalist movement. A digest of his speech was circulated here by the official Iraqi news agency.

"Iraq's sole condition is that the Syrian government should denounce the UN Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 once the Iraqi troops arrive in Syria," the agency quoted Bakr as saying.

He said Baghdad, in contacts last month, talked Libyan and Algerian leaders into accepting a plan for concerted military action in the event of war with Israel.

Big stores due to cut prices on VAT day

By GIDKON ESHEY
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The managers of the country's largest chain stores have agreed to reduce prices on most goods by five to 20 per cent from July 1 — VAT Day — The Jerusalem Post learned yesterday.

The managers of the Histadrut's Hamashbir Litzachon and Hamashbir Hamercasi, Superol, the army's Shekem and Shalom Stores met over the weekend with Commerce and Industry Minister Haim Bar-Lev, who asked them to reduce prices. They are also expected to move up their end-of-season sales, although no final decision was taken on this point.

Bar-Lev asked for the reductions in order to moderate the price increases that will result for application of Value Added Tax from July 1. The chain stores also have an interest in reducing prices, because July would otherwise be a slack month due to early purchases made in May and June by persons trying to beat VAT.

Final details of the price reductions will be announced later this week. The reductions refer to prices before the eight-per cent VAT levy. The reductions will not cover fresh fruit and vegetables, as VAT is not levied on these, but will apply to clothing and a wide range of other items.

Ford passes one thousand delegate mark

NEW YORK — President Gerald Ford swept all but one of the 15 national delegates elected at the Minnesota Republican convention yesterday, pushing him over the 1,000 mark in committed delegates.

One delegate went to challenger former California Governor Ronald Reagan.

With the selection of the Minnesota delegates, Ford now has 1,001 committed delegates for the Republican nominating convention in August. Reagan with the one additional delegate from Minnesota now has 928. It takes 1,130 to win the nomination.

In Democratic political developments, California Governor Edmund Brown Jr., the only active campaigner against former Georgia Governor Jimmy Carter, said on Friday night he will give Carter his enthusiastic support if Carter wins the Democratic nomination.

Brown did not concede the race, although he said Carter "appears certain to be nominated." (AP)

Looting during Polish strikes

WARSAW — As workers returned to their jobs yesterday, Polish television disclosed that strikes at the town of Radom on Friday turned into a looting spree.

Maciej Szczepanski, chairman of state radio and television, said "acts of anarchy and vandalism took place at Radom and Ursus — acts contradicting socialist democracy, socialist rights and the constitution. The looting of shops and private apartments deserves strictest condemnation, morally and otherwise," Szczepanski said.

Although strikers were seen ripping up track and blockading the main railway line in protest at food price rises, this was the first report of looting, which occurred at Radom, 60 kms. south of Warsaw. (UPI)

Three oil strikes made in Egypt

CAIRO — Foreign oil companies operating in Egypt have made three oil strikes that will boost the country's output to one million barrels a day in 1980, an Oil Ministry spokesman said yesterday.

Since the recovery of the Abu Rodels fields in Sinai last year, Egyptian production has run to 200,000 barrels a day, against consumption of about 200,000 barrels. The one million barrels a day target figure is far below the 8.1 million barrels currently produced by Saudi Arabia.

The first strike was made by Amoco 11 kms. west of Gulf of Suez coast at a depth of 11,177 feet. Another Amoco strike three kms. north of Ras Shukair on the Red Sea gave 2,660 barrels a day. A third strike, by the West German oil company Deminor on the Gulf of Suez, gave 3,700 barrels a day. (AP)

Ford ups Israel aid to \$275m., says it's final Proposal won't be fought in Congress

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON — President Ford has agreed to increase aid to Israel during the transitional quarter from the \$200m. he proposed last week to \$275m., a figure, he says, which represents his final offer to the Congress on this controversial issue.

Israel officials here and their supporters on Capitol Hill said yesterday that they would accept the President's final proposal and would not attempt to fight to increase it in the Congress.

During a meeting on Friday with Rep. Otto Passman (D-La.), the

powerful chairman of the House Foreign Operations Subcommittee, the President said that he would increase his earlier proposal by \$75m. in an effort to resolve the stalemate with Israel supporters in Congress. Originally, the President had informed Passman that he would not go above the \$200m. offer.

Passman told reporters on Friday following the meeting that the President must have studied it in great depth to back off from his original statement, he said this is firm and final and really means it.

Passman, who met with the President for more than one hour,

quoted the President as saying: "I will not yield another dollar." Israel had sought \$550m. during the three-month transitional quarter which comes between the fiscal 1976 year, ending June 30, and the fiscal 1977 year, beginning October 1. The federal government is shifting fiscal calendars this year, thus necessitating special funding during this "fifth quarter."

Although Secretary of State Kissinger had initially told Congress and Israel that the Ford Administration would not oppose the \$550m. figure if the Congress went ahead and approved it first, President Ford subsequently overruled Kissinger and warned that he would veto the entire foreign aid appropriations bill if that sum or any portion of it were included.

But since then, the President has backed off and agreed to provide transitional funding for Israel and other Middle Eastern states. Of the \$275m. proposal, \$175m. is slated to be given to Israel as an outright grant, the remaining \$100m., as in interest-paying loan. Egypt will receive \$100m., Jordan \$60m. and Syria \$15m., according to the President's final offer.

Israel circles in Washington appeared satisfied with the President's final decision. They pointed out that Israel will be receiving massive aid during the fiscal 1976 year — some \$2.3b. — and another \$1.5b. during the fiscal 1977 year. Considering the unpopularity of foreign aid in general, especially during an election year, this final proposal for Israel should be considered as sufficient, the Israel sources said.

They noted that it would prove counterproductive to urge Israel's supporters in Congress to continue the fight with the Administration at this stage, and that the important thing now was for the Congress to quickly approve the pending appropriations bill.

According to Passman, Ford said: "Otto, I would not sign the bill if you increased it and this is firm and final."

Passman added: "I'm sure he means it." He said that "the recipient should be very, very happy with this, but the donors may be a bit sad."

During a meeting with Ford last Wednesday, a group of pro-Israel senators, including Senators Case, Javits, Inouye and Humphrey, proposed a final \$375m. compromise. The President said that this was not possible, and he pointed to figures compiled by the Office of Management and Budget which showed that Israel would have only an approximate \$50m. shortfall in meeting expenses during the transitional quarter. (Continued on page 2, col. 2)

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Allon back from Bonn 'Way now open for greater cooperation with Germany'

By BRIAN ARTHUR
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

BONN. — Foreign Minister Yigal Allon, who returned to Israel on Friday after a three-day working visit here, said before leaving that the political way "is now open for even greater cooperation" between Germany and Israel in the economic field.

The visit appears to have deepened relations and laid much of the framework for increased trade and economic cooperation.

In addition to signing an agreement aimed at promoting and protecting German private investments in Israel, the two sides held the first meeting of a mixed commission for economic affairs, presided over by Mr. Allon and his host, West German Foreign Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher.

The commission, which Allon said would meet again next year in Israel, decided to set up "ad hoc" groups in both countries to explore the possibilities of cooperation in three key areas for Israel: chemicals, metals and electronics.

Information offices will also be set up in both countries to inform business of trade and investment opportunities, and there will be an exchange of information on industrial standards in an effort to avoid non-tariff trade barriers.

The West German government has undertaken to provide Israel with information on its public procurements, which could offer a potentially large market for Israeli producers.

The Bonn government also condemned the Arab boycott against Israel, calling it an "obstacle to trade and a practice incompatible with (Bonn's) policy of free economy." The Israeli side voiced special satisfaction at this statement.

"We have achieved practically everything we wanted," Allon told reporters. "It is now up to businessmen to do their best and for bureaucracy to do the least."

Israeli officials in Bonn said the agreement reached, besides stimulating private German investments in Israel, should provide considerable

able impetus to overcoming Israel's enormous \$2,000m. trade deficit with West Germany accumulated between 1967 and 1975.

While the Israeli delegation also raised requests for financial credits, the Germans made clear they could make no commitments at this moment, in the middle of a budget year and three months before national elections.

Nevertheless, Israel will continue to get 140m. marks in annual capital aid, as it has each year in the past. Israeli officials made it clear that further loans are still on the table and that they are optimistic about prospects at a later date.

Jerusalem's reported wish for a \$550m. credit from a European banking consortium, backed by the

European Community, was also discussed. But officials said little about this except to indicate that it is still pending.

Although economic matters headed the agenda, Allon also held political discussions with Bonn Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, Foreign Minister Genscher, Social Democratic Party chairman Willy Brandt and opposition leader Helmut Kohl, who is the Christian Democrat candidate for Chancellor next October 3.

Answering questions at Ben-Gurion Airport on his return, Allon said he had not met with either U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger or South African premier John Vorster while in Germany (the two men had been meeting in Bavaria).

'Can't let Maronites go under'

BONN. — Israel cannot tolerate a Lebanese compromise that would mean destruction of Lebanon's Maronite Christian community, Foreign Minister Yigal Allon said here on Friday.

This was one of two things which Mr. Allon told reporters "cannot be tolerated" under a compromise in Lebanon: — "A destruction of the Maronite people on the one hand and permission for the PLO to operate against Israeli settlements across the border."

Allon noted that Israel had followed a policy of restraint towards the Lebanese crisis. But he warned that the conflict was more than a purely domestic affair and that, among other things, the fate of the country's Maronite Christians was at stake.

There was a danger that a com-

promise solution under the international expeditionary force in Lebanon might lead to Syria deserting the Maronites and coming to terms again with the radical Moslems. In order to satisfy the PLO the Syrians might then let the terrorists concentrate along certain areas close to Israel's border "and let them loose on Israel," he said.

There is "a limit to what Israel can tolerate, and this is the direct interest of Israel's security along its northern border," he warned.

(Asked on his return to Israel how Jerusalem would behave in such a situation, he told reporters at Ben-Gurion Airport: "How we will act, and when, is something I left for the German reporters to use their guessing powers on, and I shall do the same for you.")

Maritime Fruit Carriers offers \$3m. to crews

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — A proposal by the management of the financially-troubled Maritime Fruit Carriers Company in London to add \$500,000 to its offer of \$2.5m. to settle the severance-pay claims of the crews of its seven Israel flag ships appeared yesterday to be moving the dispute towards a solution.

The heads of the Officers Union and the Seamen's Union were due to meet late last night to consider the latest proposal — which comes close to meeting their demands for between \$3.25m. and \$3.4m.

On Friday, the Officers Union called London and urged the management to end the dispute, making it possible for the Israeli crews to run the ships, under possible chartering to Israeli operators. The union called for a \$3.5m. guarantee from MFC management.

Two companies, Marico and Ofer Brothers, are reportedly already negotiating the possibility of chartering the ships. According to Allon Shapira, Seamen's Union secretary, if the charter is arranged, the men would only demand outstanding wages from the guaranteed money.

Representatives of the Israel unions and the corresponding British unions signed an agreement in London on Friday to coordinate their campaign to preserve their own national flags on MFC ships. Four of the ships sail under the British flag, Adam Chisik, Officers Union secretary, who signed the agreement, informed *The Jerusalem*

Post that they had the support of the International Transport Workers Federation.

Meanwhile, the Persimmon Core, the only MFC ship still sailing, continued towards Haifa with its cargo of California oranges consigned to Rotterdam. Capt. Ephraim Marcovitz had departed from his Long Beach-Rotterdam course over fears of sabotage. If the ship does dock in Haifa, the Transport Ministry will launch an immediate investigation, it was learned here.

Mark Segal adds from London: Some 15 Israeli seamen are waiting in the port of London for back pay after their boat, the *Mango Core*, was seized by creditors of the MFC. The company owes \$20m. to banks and other creditors.

The captain, Abraham Yasur, said the men are worried about the boat's future.

The full crew numbers 27, but four of the non-Israelis have already left. All the officers are Israelis. Capt. Yasur said that he and the men will refuse to leave the ship until pay claims are settled. They are owed for last month, holiday money and seniority compensation.

According to an unconfirmed report from London last night a meeting of the MFC board of directors reinstated Mula Brenner and Ya'acov Meridor as general managers of the company. El Struve Henschel, the U.S. lawyer who had replaced them, was relieved of his post and former Netanyahu Mayor Oved Ben-Ami was put on the board, the report said.

Threat to quit Alignment unit

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Three members of the Alignment's decision-making committee on Friday threatened to resign unless the process of making decisions is changed.

The three are Israel Kargman, chairman of the Knesset Finance Committee, and MKs Adl Amora and David Coren.

The committee comprises seven Cabinet ministers, seven members of the Histadrut Central Committee, four members of the Knesset Finance Committee, Labour's Secretary-General and committee chairman Aharon Becker. (The 21st member was the late Pinhas Sapir who was not replaced.)

The MKs complained that issues disputed between the Government and the Histadrut are debated at

length, but when no side has a majority, Labour's Secretary-General Meir Zarmi proposes a compromise. For example, the Government wanted the rate of VAT to be 10 per cent and the Histadrut six. Zarmi proposed eight without even trying to convince members of the economic merits of his proposal, the MKs complained. The ministers supported it, however, fearing he would otherwise side with the Histadrut. Kargman and Coren told *The Jerusalem Post*.

Committee chairman, Aharon Becker told *The Post* last night that the MKs' threat and similar complaints on the same issue by members of the Alignment's economic committee will be taken up at a meeting of the latter committee on Wednesday. All members of the decision-making committee also sit in the Economic Committee.

U.S. aid to Israel

(Continued from page one)

House quarter if the \$200m. figure was provided.

The senators later countered with a proposal for \$320m. which they said was Israel's minimal amount needed.

But on Thursday evening, during a White House meeting with a delegation of American Jewish leaders, the President indicated that he would accept a higher than \$200m. figure. Asked about the transitional quarter issue, the President made these points:

• Since becoming President, he has submitted two foreign aid programmes to the Congress, including some \$4.2b. slated for Israel (the fiscal 1976 and 1977 years). Since Israel was established in 1948, the U.S. has provided a total of \$6.5b. until fiscal year 1975, just before he took office. Thus, if one takes a look at a span of 28 years, Ford has recommended some 40 per cent of all the aid Israel has either received or is scheduled to receive, and that should not be forgotten by Israel and its friends here, Ford said.

• Before recommending \$1b. for Israel in military assistance during the fiscal 1977 year (another \$800m. was recommended in economic aid), several of the President's technical advisers recommended that Israel receive only around \$500m. or \$600m. in military

aid, that Israel did not need more. But, the President said, he recommended the \$1b. figure because he assumed that that would also cover the transitional quarter. Therefore, he initially opposed any funds for Israel during the three months. The \$1b. in military aid was designed for 15 months, Ford told the Jewish leaders.

• The \$550m. requested by Israel was more than the U.S. could supply to meet Israel's legitimate defence needs, the President said. All U.S. governmental experts agreed on that point, the President said.

• Since becoming President, he has been forced to cut back on all spending programmes, including domestic education, food, health care and other urgent needs. It would be inconsistent if he did not attempt to cut back on foreign spending. Unfortunately, Ford said, he has received a reputation of being "hard-hearted" because of his fiscal restraint, but these policies were needed to control inflation and to have a steady economy.

After giving this background, the President promised the Jewish leaders that Israel's financial problems would be met "so they don't have a shortfall."

Although some pro-Israel senators and aides were not totally satisfied with the President's final offer, a major fight was not expected when the bill comes up this week.



168 THIS WEEK
Lotto Draw 26/76
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for betting in Lotto entries.

Bnei Brak quiet

Jerusalem Post Reporter

BNEI BRAK. — This city quiet over the weekend, a change from the past four, when religious elements clashed with police drivers who sought to drive a Rehov Hashomer during the night. Tension, nevertheless, high in the area.

A signpost has been temporarily installed at Rehov Hashomer, questioning motorists to refrain from passing through it on Shabbat.

Both police and the Transport Ministry regard as illegal the action taken by the city council early Friday morning to close the street. They contend that council was empowered only to command the street's closure.

After investigation by Ashdod Labour Council

'Police should probe Peretz' handling of dockers' funds'

ASHDOD. — The investigations committee of the Ashdod Labour Council on Friday recommended that the police look into the "immoral and inadequate" handling of IL1m. in dockers' union dues during the term of Yehoshua Peretz as head of the port-workers committee here.

The committee was making public the results of a three-week investigation into how the funds were handled between May 1, 1971 and December 31, 1975 (Peretz was voted out of office shortly thereafter). The report highlighted the salaries and loans the previous port-workers committee had allegedly paid themselves.

The investigations committee said it had discovered that the men of the Peretz committee had for years received larger salaries than other port workers. They had in addition paid themselves IL500 a month for taking part in their weekly Sunday meetings. During the period under study Peretz had put himself down for IL24,000 as compensation for his work as committee chairman, the report said. Another member, Haim Tubul had received IL2,500 for his work on

the committee, and other members smaller sums, in addition to their salaries from the port management.

Turning to loans, the investigators said that 80 per cent of the loans made to port workers from the dockers fund over this period had gone to members of the committee themselves. In addition, there were considerable irregularities in the "petty cash": a number of slips indicating large-size withdrawals but lacking signatures, dates or indication of the purpose of the withdrawal.

One committee member, they continued, had received a IL7,500 loan to finance a certain social activity. The activity had not been carried out, but the money was not returned or requested.

There was no evidence that IL30,000 collected for Kiryat Shmona by the dockers committee had ever reached its destination, the report further charged.

The report concludes: "The way in which the fund's accounts were handled arouses complete lack of confidence, and we recommend to the (present) port-workers committee that the entire fund be submitted to the police fraud squad for investigation."

The investigations committee was headed by Moshe Banai, principal of the Amal vocational school in Ashdod.

Of the 11-man Peretz board, some six are still serving. Tension was reported at the port on Friday after word of the report got out and workers were seen searching for works-committee members.

Peretz himself was not to be seen. "I'm" reports that he has not been seen at the port for a month, and that no work has yet been found for him there, although he apparently continues to draw a salary.

The new head of the port-workers committee, Eli Maman, said he and his fellow members of the anti-Peretz faction were not surprised at the findings. He said he would call a meeting today to decide whether to pass the findings on to the police.

Maman added that the new port-workers treasury, composed entirely of anti-Peretz men, had published a report indicating that they had raised the cash on hand in the fund to IL80,000, from the IL7,000 they had found on taking office. (Itm)

Ford and the Jewish vote

(Continued from page one)

personal bond to Israel, going back many years, "deep-seated and long standing." According to one participant, the President expressed his strong admiration for Israel. He pledged that he could never stand "idly" by if Israel's "security and survival" were threatened.

He said that Israel occupies a strategic piece of land in the Middle East. "Israel is the linchpin for the area in terms of peace and stability," the participant quoted the President as saying.

Continuing his response, the President recalled his personal experience with Israel and described his "many many" years of friendship with the Jewish people. He said that he worked very closely with Prime Minister Rabin when he was ambassador in Washington and that he continues to work closely with Ambassador Simcha Diniz.

The President said that he has tried to make evident, during his Administration, the moral and military commitment to Israel.

According to several participants present, this statement by Ford describing the nature of the U.S. commitment to Israel resulted in a round of applause by the American Jewish leaders.

Also attending the meeting were Alan Greenspan, the chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers to the President, Gen. Brent Scowcroft, the National Security adviser, and

David Lissy, the associate director of the Domestic Council and Liaison with the Jewish Community. Fleisher introduced the local Jewish leaders to the President and the others present.

Peretz opened the meeting, which took place in the cabinet room, with a general statement on the accomplishments of his Administration and the progress already achieved in the Middle East.

In response to questions, he made the following points:

• The U.S. would strongly oppose any Arab and third world effort to expell or suspend Israel from the UN. Ford said that the U.S. has already taken action to head such a move off, but did not go into details.

• The situation in Lebanon was very "confusing" and there were not "a lot of alternatives" for the U.S.

• A suitable compromise would be worked out on the transitional aid matter to Israel.

• No one is more disappointed than the President in the decline in Soviet Jewish emigration during the past two years. Ford said that it was too late in the current legislative calendar year to begin efforts to possibly change existing law concerning the granting of trade benefits in exchange for liberalization in their emigration policies. He said that a "log jam" currently exists, but refused to cast blame on anyone. He expressed

hope that something could be done in the near future, and he added that the U.S. was looking for a signal from Moscow that it would respond.

• The U.S. opposed the Arab boycott of Israel and American firms that deal with Israel. The President outlined those measures that the Administration has already taken — mostly through "quiet diplomacy" — to counter this problem. Scowcroft was asked by the President to elaborate on behind-the-scenes actions by the Administration.

Greenspan, while stating firmly that the U.S. was opposed to the boycott, noted nevertheless that pending legislation — the Ribicoff bill — designed to take away tax incentives from those U.S. firms that comply with the boycott was counter-productive and unwise. He said that the Ribicoff bill, now before the Congress, would be a "bad precedent" in using the tax code and should be avoided.

• The Administration opposes any quota system that would have a tendency to show "reverse discrimination." Ford said that he has always believed that merit and dedication should be used to get ahead. A participant present said that the question of the next step in Middle East negotiations was never raised. Secretary of State Kissinger, who was in Europe, was also never mentioned by name.

Caesarea golf

CAESAREA. — Israel's top golfer, Laurie Ben of Hadera, on home leave from a golfing scholarship in Miami, took no time at all to show his class in winning the Individual Stableford Competition here yesterday. He won with 36 points, a far better than Cyril Kaufman of Ra'anana.

Alec Rathouse of Tel Aviv won the B Division with 39 points, two better than Jack Karpas of Jerusalem and Eylon Jackson of Givat Shapira. Cella Mandel took the C Division with 33 points.

Meir Naor of Hadera and Issy Rogov of Tel Aviv won the Rothchild Trophy, beating the Savoyon father-and-son pair of Elie and Bing Eiting, by 6 and 5.

B'sheba Hapoel beat Danes

By PAUL KOEN
Jerusalem Post Sports Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Israel League champions Beersheba Hapoel yesterday beat Koge of Denmark by 2:1 in the teams debut in the European inter-to competition played before 12,000 in Beersheba.

Israel's cupholders Jerusalem Beitar were to play their first game in the series against Youngboys of Bern, in the Swiss capital last night.

Beersheba were trailing 0:1 against the Danes at halftime, with a goal scored by Poulsen in the 34th minute. But it was all Beersheba.

sheba in the second half. Two headers by Avraham Numa got the home side its deserved win. Numa headed a Meir Hader pass in for the equalizer in the 61st minute and added the winner in the 72nd minute. Barad and Rafi Elhanan also came near scoring, and the busiest man on the field was Larsen, the national team goalkeeper of Denmark.

Beersheba play Herta Berlin next week and against Standard Liege of Belgium the following week, before touring in Europe. Jerusalem Beitar next play Admira Wacker of Austria and Malmoe of Sweden in away games.

\$15m. building at Hadassah in Jerusalem

New cancer centre opens today

By SIMSON OARLEBACH
Jerusalem Post Science Reporter

One of the largest and best-equipped centres in the world for dealing with cancer, the Siegrist and Irma Ullmann Building for Cancer and Allied Diseases, is to be officially opened today at the Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Centre in Jerusalem.

Former Prime Minister Golda Meir will be guest speaker at the dedication ceremonies. Last night a festive evening was held at Sinyel Ha'oma to mark the opening of the centre.

Some of the world's leading authorities in cancer research, who arrived in Israel for the opening will participate tomorrow in an international symposium on malignant neoplastic diseases, to be held at Hadassah Hospital.

The luxuriously-equipped 60-bed building in Ein-Kerem, brings together under one roof all the most advanced facilities available

for combatting the disease — from its sophisticated and rare 35-Mev betatron ray machine to the kinetic art in wood-panelled therapy lounge. Specialized computers make available tailor-made systems of treatment for each patient. With the declared aim of providing a bridge between basic research and clinical treatment, the centre is serviced with all of the latest tools for research, diagnosis and treatment, and social therapy.

The \$15m. building is to house the Moshe Sharet Institute of Oncology, the Department of Medical Bio-physics and Nuclear Medicine, and the Department of Hematology. As this will be the largest centre of its kind between Paris and Tokyo, patients are expected from all over the Middle East, as well as Europe and elsewhere.

A sizeable number of patients from countries officially at war with Israel are also expected to be received, in line with Hadassah's past experience and

practice. The air-conditioned five-storey building is entered through a long, Sienna-brick covered walk with walls covered by greenery. Deep in the earth are the heavy installations: the betatron, the linear accelerator, the cobalt unit and the vanguard machine.

On either side of the main hall is the multi-storied hospital centre, and the research and laboratory facilities. A bridge on all the upper levels links the Ullmann building to Hadassah's main hospital building. Provisions have been made for changes which may be necessitated by new scientific know-how.

Funds for the Ullmann Building came from a special grant from the Siegfried and Irma Ullmann Foundation, and the U.S. Agency for International Development. A substantial amount was also raised by a committee of friends of Moshe Sharet headed by Judge

We deeply mourn the sudden death in America of

STEVE FREEDMAN ז"ל

The coffin will arrive today, June 27, 1976.

For details of the funeral, call 03-793728 or 471715.

THE FAMILY

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MOSHE ALMOG ז"ל

Memorial meeting tomorrow, Monday, June 28, at 4 p.m. (and not at 12 noon). We shall meet at the gates of the Ashdod Cemetery.

The Family

HADASSAH
Women's Zionist Organization of America
deeply mourns
the untimely passing
of

Dr. MAURICE S. SAGE ז"ל

and shares the grief of the bereaved family.

Soviet Jewish scientist accuses: 'Ford indifferent to plight of Soviet Jews'

MOSCOW. — A prominent Jewish scientist denied permission to go to Israel has accused President Ford of withholding moral support from those refused permission to leave the Soviet Union.

Professor Benjamin Levich, one of the most distinguished Soviet Jewish scientists to apply to go to Israel, is one of several who have been denied permission to leave on the grounds they once had access to classified information.

In an open letter to Mr. Ford last week, the 58-year-old electrochemist asked why the President and his administration had for so long "remained indifferent to the systematic violation of human rights in many parts of the world," among them the right to choose where one lived.

"Why have those who have waited long, agonizing years here for this right to be realized, never sensed moral support from you, Mr. President, or your administration?" he asked.

Professor Levich said American quiet diplomacy on the issue was so quiet no one could hear it, and

he challenged Mr. Ford over a reported assertion in April that Moscow now was more humane about reuniting families, thanks to American efforts.

"So far this is wishful thinking, but not reality," he wrote. According to official government statistics, 11,700 Jews left the Soviet Union to live in Israel last year, only half as many as in 1974.

Professor Levich's two sons and their wives were among those given visas.

In his letter, which was made available to foreign correspondents here on Friday, he praised efforts made on behalf of Soviet emigrants, such as a U.S. congressional amendment which made trade concessions dependent on a relaxation of Soviet emigration policy.

But President Ford's administration had opposed the move, apparently because of pragmatic considerations, Professor Levich said.

"The threat is that such a completely pragmatic approach might in the long run result in basic moral principles ending in oblivion," he wrote.

Dissident Soviet historian forced to leave country

MOSCOW. — Dissident Soviet historian Andrei Amalrik said yesterday he and his wife have been issued with visas and plan to leave for Holland next Thursday.

Amalrik, 37, said by telephone he and his wife were preparing for their departure, which he described as "entirely the result of pressure" from the Soviet authorities.

Amalrik said that in April he had agreed to apply to emigrate to Israel after being harassed by police when he returned from exile in the Soviet Far East and tried to settle again in Moscow.

Today the author of "Will the Soviet Union Survive Until 1984?" again stressed that he never wanted to go to Israel. The authorities' sole aim in making him apply to do so was to deprive him of Soviet citizenship, he added.

Unlike emigrants to other countries, who are allowed to keep their Soviet citizenship, those who leave for Israel are forced to renounce it on the grounds that the two countries do not have diplomatic relations.

There is an added irony in Amalrik's case since he is not Jewish and his wife is a Moslem Tartar.

"It's not a question of Israel, that's not the problem. It's simply that in this way my wife and I immediately renounce Soviet citizenship," he said.

Since his essay on Soviet survival prospects earned him an international reputation in 1970 (it forecast that the Soviet Union would disintegrate after a war with China), Amalrik has spent all but a year or so in a labour camp or internal exile on charges of anti-Soviet activity.

Ford raps Agnew's anti-Israel slur

Jerusalem Post Correspondent WASHINGTON. — President Gerald Ford has publicly rebuked former Vice-President Spiro Agnew, who recently charged that "Zionist influences" dominate the American media and that Israel is an "imperialistic, aggressive" state.

"I believe those remarks are wrong, both substantively and morally, and they struck me as an unsavory footnote to a chapter in our history that would best remain closed," Ford said in a letter to the End Brith Anti-Defamation League in New York. The White House made the letter, dated June 22, public on Friday.

"Instead of dwelling upon the past, I would prefer to look to the future and to determine ways

that we can reduce bigotry in the world and secure a just and lasting peace," Ford said. "Your organization has always been in the forefront of that effort, and I want to do everything I can as President to ensure that, working together, we can be successful."

The President wrote to the ADL's national chairman, Seymour Grabard, in response to a telegram seeking Ford's reaction to Agnew's slurs against Israel and the American Jewish community. Agnew, who was forced to resign office in 1973 after pleading no contest to bribery charges, has come under widespread criticism for his series of allegations, made during a recent spate of highly publicized interviews granted to promote his new book.

Aviation pioneer dies at 76

TEL AVIV. — Uri Michaeli, pioneer of civil aviation in Israel, died at Sefel Hospital on Thursday after a prolonged illness. He was 76.

Michaeli, who came to Israel from Russia in 1921, was one of the first members of the Histadrut Executive and worked in that capacity to promote immigration.

He helped found the first popular opera here and organized the Philharmonic Orchestra. He was a founding member of the Hagana.

Michaeli also helped set up the Hebrew Aviation Club and was the director of the Avron firm before the establishment of the State. He served as head of the civil aviation department in the Transport Ministry for many years, and helped shape the future of El Al and Arka.

Michaeli, who is survived by his wife, son and daughter, will be buried today at the Hagana Veterans' division of the Holon cemetery. (Itim)



Hands joined at about 10,000 feet the wedding party dives towards the huppa. (ITPA)

Sky diving couple drop in for their wedding

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER

Jerusalem Post Reporter HADERA. — A sky-diving bridegroom slipped a wedding ring on his bride's finger at 8,500 feet — just before their parachutes opened.

The couple, Shmuel Franco, a 32-year-old Tel Aviv engineer and 21-year-old Nurit Lehman, a gymnastics teacher from Nahariya, are members of the Israel Sky Diving Club.

The couple have both been making free jumps for several years, at least once a year. "It was natural for us to think of this idea because we love both sky diving and each other," said Shmuel.

"The happiest landing of my life," Nurit added. Before boarding the Britten-Norman twin-engine Islander plane, the couple, clad in matching white jumpsuits, repeated the

special "prayer before jumping," composed for Israel paratroopers. They were accompanied by two other divers.

At 10,000 feet the party jumped out, all holding hands in traditional sky diving style. During their 6,500-foot free-fall, Shmuel slipped the ring on the Nurit's finger, and one of the other divers photographed the event with a camera fixed to his helmet.

Then the chutes opened and they all floated safely down to a former R.A.F. landing field just outside Kibbutz Elin Shemer.

The bride and groom changed clothes. Nurit into a white-bodiced green-skirted wedding costume and veil. Standing under the parachute huppa, the couple was wed by Rabbi Haim Zaratzky of Hadera.

In his short speech, the rabbi noted that while the previous generation had conquered the land, "our wonderful youth of today are conquering the sky."

'Leakage problem dogs oil-reservoir tests'

Jerusalem Post Staff

The practicality of underground oil-storage reservoirs — which the U.S. said it would help Israel build in return for Israel's giving up the Abu Rodeis oilfield — has been put in doubt by oil leakages, the newspaper "Ma'ariv" said on Friday.

Asked to comment, the Government's energy chief, Dr. Zvi Dinstein, said later in the day that the tests were still going on and the results would not be known for six months.

Part of the package to induce Israel to give up the Sinal oilfield, which had made it independent in energy, was a U.S. offer of \$200m. to build storage reservoirs. But, "Ma'ariv" said, the oil has leaked away in tests conducted so far, in

the Eilat area and the north. It quoted unnamed senior geologists as saying that the methods used in building the test reservoirs should be re-examined. The geologists added, however, that there should be a solution to the problems that have arisen so far.

Dr. Dinstein, talking to reporters on his return from a short visit to Washington on energy matters, said the experts working on the reservoir problem were in the midst of months of tests to determine whether the reservoirs constructed would keep the oil in. If the reservoirs leak, he said, then it would be necessary to find a cheap way to stop this. He thought it would be another six months before one could say where such underground reservoirs can be built, and how to seal them.

'Staff, student demands may close universities'

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Universities may not open next fall because the academic staff are demanding higher wages and the students lower tuition fees, Minister of Education Aharon Yadin told a gathering of journalists at Beit Sokolov here on Friday.

The budget squeeze dominated the discussion. There was still no decision on tuition fees for high school, Yadin said. And cuts in support to theatres and other cultural institutions depended on whether the Knesset approved the ministry's budget, he said.

However, Yadin claimed, no student would be kept from continuing his studies if he wanted to study and was capable of doing so. He felt that enough scholarships and loans were available.

During the coming school year, 1,350,000 students would have to be accommodated at 7,000 "campuses" — from kindergartens to

universities, Yadin said. That meant an increase of 20,000 students over last year.

The 50,000 teachers employed in the system had been asked to contribute one hour a week of teaching without pay, he noted.

A Ministry spokesman said later that teachers at the Tel-Zayin municipal high school in Tel Aviv had volunteered to contribute the requested time — which totalled 40 hours a week. The overtime would be devoted to lessons for the disadvantaged and to cultural enrichment programmes for all students, the announcement said. Teachers at the Shifman School in Tzfat Carmel have made a similar commitment.

Arab schools had a "relative lag" in study programmes, the Minister said. They had also suffered a "student explosion" because of a peak birth rate, and were in need of more school buildings. (Itim)

Summer camps in Haifa area

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — Summer camps for children are being set up by the municipality to provide fun, instruction or sports for some 18,000 youngsters during the coming two months. Campers will spend from 10 days to four weeks mostly in parks atop Mt. Carmel, in schoolhouses, on the beach and on sports fields.

Some will provide brush-up courses in English and in mathematics. Some 1,300 children from kindergarten to high school level will be admitted against greatly reduced charges, or none at all.

The outlay for all this will be IL2,750,000 of which the Government is contributing IL1,600,000.

Among other summer plans here, the Technion Student Union in conjunction with the municipality's

Tourism Development Association are organizing summer vacation visits of overseas students. The dormitories at Technion City will serve as their base.

The project, divided into 12-day stays per group, will last from July 7 until the end of September. The Haifa package includes campus entertainment, sports and social activities in the company of Technion students, sightseeing, and lectures on politics and question-and-answer sessions.

A 40-metre-high lighting pillar designed to reduce accidents and eliminate the need for shorter lamp-posts has been put up outside the Wolfson Towers in Jerusalem by the municipality. The pillar, weighing 3,500 kilos, is high enough both to illuminate the whole area of the Rehov Ruppel-Sderot Ben-Zvi intersection and — it is hoped — to prevent vandalism.

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Begin: PLO state means Soviet guns on borders

By YA'ACOV ARDON

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — Likud leader Menachem Begin, M.K., warned here on Friday that if the West Bank is turned over to "an Arafat state" ordinary Soviet-provided artillery would be in range of every town in Israel except Haifa.

Speaking at the Engineers' Forum, Begin recalled the surprise outbreak of the Yom Kippur War, projecting the possibility of another sudden onslaught preceded by an artillery bombardment on population centres by Soviet guns placed near the green line borders.

"And then our army would move in to drive the enemy once more from the very areas from which they drove them in the past. How often can we sacrifice our men?" Begin asked. "We have already lost 12,000 in past wars."

Begin said that PLO leader Yasser Arafat would lose no time in turning his Palestinian state on

the West Bank into a Soviet base. "It is no accident that the delegate of Arab terrorists, premeditated murderers of children and boasting of it, has been granted the status of an ambassador with full diplomatic rights in Moscow," he said.

Taking issue with Abba Eban's proposed election platform for the Labour Party (which advocates withdrawal, under certain conditions, from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip) the Likud leader drew a parallel between the situation of Czechoslovakia in 1938-39 with that of Israel today: A combination of "territorial demands, threats of war, pressure by friends, weakness on the internal front, surrender of a protective mountain range, and international guarantees for the safety of the victim."

Begin said the Knesset would this week debate a motion to hold Knesset elections in September on this issue.

Aloni: Israel no democracy

TEL AVIV. — Knesset Member Shulamit Aloni charged on Friday that a dozen Israel Aircraft Industries employees were paid 800 per cent severance pay after they discovered alleged irregularities in the election of the company's works council.

The Citizen's Rights Party M.K., who was speaking to the Engineers' Club here, used this as one of several examples to back her claim that Israel is not a democracy.

Mrs. Aloni seemed to be alluding to an item in the State Comptroller's report on IAI, which spoke of the "increased" severance pay given to a group of workers who resigned over inefficiency. She claimed IAI had offered to help the men emigrate from Israel. The men for their part would prefer to return the severance pay and stay with the firm, she added.

As another illustration of her claim that Israel is a "semi-federal society with the trappings of democracy," Aloni said she had seen a political party buying votes in an Arab village. Israel Broadcasting had declined to cover this, she said, and had allegedly told her they were under heavy pressure not to touch the subject.

The establishment pays various pressure groups in order to stay in power, she charged, citing appointments made to yeshivot. She also claimed that the draft fundamental law on human rights was only window-dressing, because it would not cancel out previous legislation. (Itim)

Impresarios sue Gadi Yagil

TEL AVIV. — Two impresario agencies are suing entertainer Gadi Yagil for IL1m. for breach of contract and asking for a lien against his flat and car.

Bidur La'am Ltd. and Avraham Deshe Ltd. filed suit in District Court here on Friday, claiming Yagil had broken with them and gone to work for another impresario.

According to the claimants, Yagil explained he was unable to fulfil his obligations because of "complications with women" and they promised to help him. So far he has made no move to return, they said. The suit includes an appeal for a court order requiring him to stop all of his "sporadic appearances" on stage, television or radio until he meets his commitments to them.

MILTON HOFFMAN of Riverdale, New York, was designated Friday by President Ford as his special representative at the groundbreaking ceremonies on July 4 for an American bicentennial park at Beit Shמש, west of Jerusalem.



Battling the blaze at the Penguin factory in Tel Aviv on Friday. (Israel Sun)

Arson not suspected in Penguin factory blaze

By ARTHUR KEMELMAN

and YA'ACOV ARDON

Jerusalem Post Reporters

TEL AVIV. — Fire early Friday morning completely destroyed the Penguin factory in the industrial quarter (Kiryat Malacha) here, but firemen do not suspect arson as the cause.

The factory, which produces carbon paper, is located in the same area where "Ha'aretz" stores its newsprint and which was ravaged by fire earlier this year. The "Ha'aretz" fire and other blazes in this part of Tel Aviv in recent months are believed to be the work of arsonists.

Although the investigation is continuing, preliminary reports suggest that a malfunctioning thermostat which controls the temperature of ovens used in manufacturing the carbon paper was probably responsible for the fire. Damage was estimated at thousands of pounds.

About 25 firemen and nine engines were on the scene shortly after the fire was discovered at 8 a.m. in the four-storey factory.

The firemen, wearing gas masks as protection against poisonous fumes from the various raw materials in the plant, fought the blaze until 2 p.m., when they brought it under control.

In Haifa yesterday morning, a fire raged for four hours at a production unit of Haifa Chemicals Ltd. in the Bayside area before being brought under control with foam. Fire brigades of Haifa, Acre and Afula fought the blaze, believed to have started from a short circuit. The extent of the damage is not known. The damaged unit employs 20 men per shift and normally operates around the clock.

Haifa U. 'adopts' outlying libraries

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — Haifa University's unit for bridging the cultural gap has "adopted" the libraries in the development towns.

The university library will distribute spare copies of its own books among them, and train their librarians and the education department heads of the development towns in a programme designed to turn the reading rooms of the libraries into community integration centres.

The university's president, Eliezer Rafaeli, and chief librarian Shmuel Sever will be host to about 100 northern librarians and education leaders at the university library on Sunday.

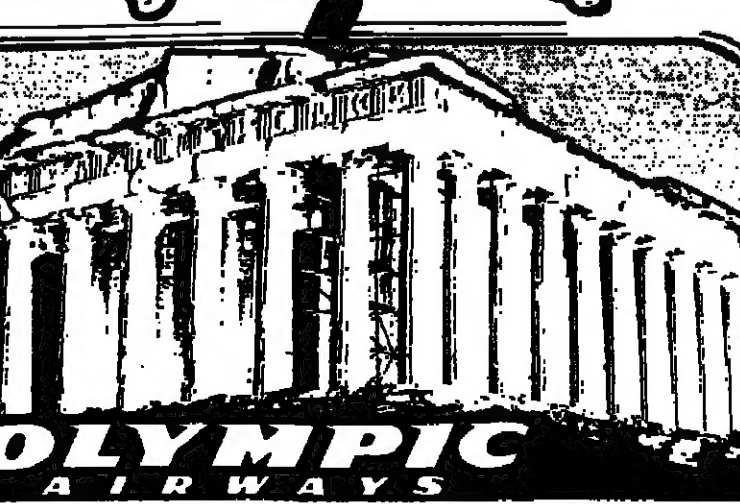
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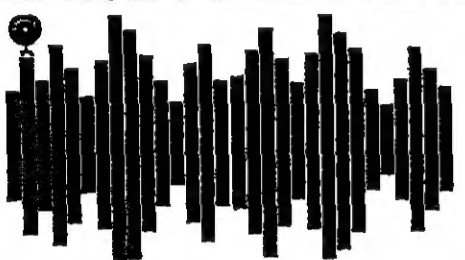
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Strike by Polish workers cancels food price rise

WARSAW. — Striving to forestall a repetition of the bloody protests of 1970, the government has withdrawn its programme of food price increases in the face of strikes and a railroad blockade.

On Friday workers struck in factories and brought railroad traffic south and west of Warsaw to a standstill by ripping up the track and derailing two trains.

The strike action was in protest against a government programme announced a day earlier to raise the price of meat, fish, poultry butter and other foods by as much as 60 per cent.

Premier Piotr Jaroszewicz announced the government would reconsider the economic package in light of the workers' views. The decision was "another confirmation of the democratic principles which

guide the party and the government in their social policy," he said.

A similar range of price increases announced 12 days before Christmas 1970 sparked off riots in which at least 56 persons died, according to official figures.

The strikers resumed work yesterday after the government withdrew the plan on price rises.

The rejection of the legislation by the workers presented a problem for the leadership of Communist Party leader Edward Gierek and Premier Jaroszewicz. The government now has to produce a new formula for economic reforms mindful of the power the workers have shown they wield with the strike action — an unaccustomed phenomenon in a Communist society. (UPI)

Eanes seen likely choice in today's Portugal poll

LISBON. — The campaign for today's first free Portuguese presidential election in 50 years wound up on Friday with shootings, stones, fights, and a bomb, and with the Prime Minister — one of the four candidates — making a slow recovery from a heart attack.

The country's 6.2m. registered voters are now expected to choose the army chief, General Antonio Ramalho Eanes, as first president of the Second Portuguese Republic. His chances improved greatly earlier in the week when the Prime Minister, Admiral Jose Pinheiro de Azevedo, suffered a heart attack while campaigning.

But even before Azevedo was sidelined, polls gave Eanes (who is backed by the three main parties — Socialists, Centrist Popular Democrats, and conservative Centre Democrats) 34 per cent of voter support, to Azevedo's 14 per cent. During the final days of the campaign, far-left candidate Major Otelo Saraiva de Carvalho was closing in from the admiral's rear, but the Communist entry and only civilian running, Octavio Pato, was running a distant last with 3 per cent. Most political observers felt it

likely Azevedo's votes would filter to Eanes — since the two candidates' campaign platforms, pledging authority to rebuild a shattered economy, were not far apart.

In last-minute campaign violence, three persons were shot and injured on Friday night after police intervened to prevent leftist youths from breaking up Eanes' final campaign rally in Setubal, south of Lisbon. The incident occurred after the youths stoned police vehicles; a hospital spokesman said one youth was hospitalized with a leg wound.

In Lisbon, fighting erupted between rival groups of far leftists holding downtown rallies near one another — one group supporting Eanes and the other Saraiva de Carvalho.

Meanwhile in northern Oporto, where the Prime Minister is recuperating, a bomb destroyed a car parked near a Communist rally.

Azevedo's doctors have voiced optimism for his chances of eventual recovery, since his nervous system seems not to have been damaged. But he "must stay in hospital three more weeks and must convalesce for several months, probably about six," the chief of the medical team said yesterday. (AP, UPI)

Socialists reject Italian coalition

ROME. — Premier Aldo Moro's Christian Democrats asked the Socialist Party yesterday to loosen its links with the Communists and make a coalition government possible. The Socialists said no.

Christian Democratic Vice-Secretary Giovanni Galloni, writing in the party magazine "La Discussione," called for a coalition with the Socialists, keeping the Communists in the opposition. He told the Socialists their alignment with the Communists was to blame for their losses in the June 20 elections.

The Christian Democrats held their ground in the election, winning 263 seats on the 630-member Chamber of Deputies. The Communists jumped from 179 to 227 and the

Socialists dropped from 61 to 57. Former Socialist Party Secretary Giacomo Mancini shrugged off the ruling party's suggestions in an interview with the news magazine "Tempo."

"We are no longer available for the old formulas the Christian Democratic notables, like unsuccessful magicians, are pulling out of worn-out top hats," Mancini said. "I think that at this point the Communists cannot be excluded from any serious majority in Italy."

Negotiations for a new government are expected to start after the new parliament convenes this week. Moro's present cabinet has run the country on a caretaker basis after losing Socialist support and resigning on April 30. (UPI)

Westwind crosses U.S. non-stop

JERUSALEM POST CORRESPONDENT
WASHINGTON. — An Israel Aircraft Industries' 1124 Westwind jet has made its first non-stop coast-to-coast flight, from New York to Los Angeles, in six hours and 22 minutes.

Atlantic Aviation Corp., the U.S. distributor of the Westwind jet, said the plane, which carried 40 passengers and two crew members, flew at altitudes of up to 13,100 metres at an average cruising speed

of 750 kms per hour. The company said the plane had adequate fuel reserves remaining at the end of the flight.

The Westwind encountered headwinds up to 160 kms. per hour during the 4,000-km. flight, Atlantic Aviation said. Earlier this month a Westwind flew from Reykjavik in Iceland, to Wilmington, Delaware non-stop, a distance of 4,400 kms. Westwinds have also flown non-stop between Tel Aviv and London, the company said.

HEBREW

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About 30,000 samples for tastings will be served at the Exhibition. BEACON, the largest confectionery producers in South Africa, also world renowned, is exhibiting a large range of products, which include chocolates and chocolate bars, lollipops and a wide variety of delicious sweets.

Unseeded Gerulaitis ousts defending champ Ashe

LONDON. — Unseeded Vitas Gerulaitis came back from two sets down to beat fellow American Arthur Ashe, the top seed and defending champion, 4-6, 8-6, 6-3, 6-4 in the fourth round of the Wimbledon tennis championships here yesterday.

Ashe, the world's top-ranked player, produced few of the marvellous strokes which enabled him to achieve one of Wimbledon's biggest upsets last year, when he beat favourite Jimmy Connors of the U.S. in the final. His play was so indifferent towards the end, particularly in the forehand court, that it seemed he must be suffering from some kind of injury.

For Gerulaitis, 21, fourth-ranked American from New York, yesterday's win made up for a bitter Wimbledon 1975. Then he was seeded 14th, but went out in the first round to Australian Ray Ruffels.

Shortly after Ashe's defeat, second-seeded Connors whipped Stan Smith of the U.S., 6-4, 6-3, 6-3.

Top women's seeds Chris Evert and Evonne Goolagong wasted little time in securing their quarterfinal places.

Miss Evert, favourite for the top women's prize, won her fourth round match 6-2, 6-2 against Hol-



Jimmy Connors in action yesterday against Stan Smith.

land's Betty Stove. Although humiliated, the Dutch girl took one more game off Miss Evert than the American had conceded in her opening three matches.

Miss Goolagong, the second seed, beat her Australian compatriot Dianne Fromholtz 6-3, 6-0, reeling off nine successive games to go from 3-3 in the first set to victory.

Miss Evert now meets Olga Morozova of the Soviet Union. Others reaching the quarterfinals include Sue Barker of Britain, Rosemary

Casals of the U.S., and Martina Navratilova of Czechoslovakia.

Wimbledon is the second major title Ashe has surrendered this year. In Dallas, Texas, in May, he was beaten in his first match when he defended his world championship title.

John Newcombe, three times Wimbledon champion, was ousted by unseeded Bernie Mitton, a bushy-bearded South African. Mitton reached last 16 with a score of 3-6, 6-3, 9-8, 9-8. (AP, Reuters)

Inoki lies down and kicks to draw with Ali

TOKYO. — Boxer Muhammad Ali, big Japanese pro wrestler by stick, laying out of range of Inoki's long legs, he did not throw a single punch until the seventh round and did not land one until a left jab shook Inoki's head in the 13th round. He landed one more sudden left to Inoki's head in the 14th round.

In the last round, the referee felt compelled to shout "Go, go, go," to the two.

The first real action of the bizarre boxer-wrestler confrontation, came in the fifth when one of Inoki's dozens of leg sweeps knocked Ali down briefly. In the sixth, Ali tried to counter Inoki's tactics of lying on his back and swinging with his feet by grabbing the wrestler's legs. Inoki quickly bounced up from his back and ended up sitting on

ropes, the referee had to stop the fight.

All also went down briefly after a couple of other Inoki kicks, but each time was back on his feet immediately.

One brief variation came in the 10th round when Ali stood in a corner waiting for Inoki. Inoki grabbed him around the waist, but the referee broke it up because the two were in the ropes with Inoki's head butting against Ali's chest. The rules banned butting.

Some of the nearly 14,000 fans in the Budokan — Martial Arts Hall — threw rubbish into the ring at the final bell but there was no strong adverse reaction to the draw verdict.

Before the fight, Ali, who came here with a \$3m. guarantee, and Inoki, vowed "in English."

IN BRIEF

Economic summ

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico. — Heads of seven non-Communist Caribbean island yesterday for economic summit aimed at chart a sound recovery from last year's recession.

U.S. President Gerald Ford, first to arrive, brought with him a warning to Cuba to stop its revolutionary activities in the Caribbean as well as hopes that the summit would endorse non-intervention growth policies. (Reuters)

Rhodesian deaths

SALISBURY. — Rhodesians have killed nine black national guerrillas while losing one of their own men in clashes during the past three days, the military announced yesterday.

The military also said a black woman accompanying the guerrillas was killed by security forces. The latest deaths bring to 375 the number of guerrillas killed this year. Forty-nine Rhodesian troops have also died in action. (AP)

Cairo torture

CAIRO. — A Cairo criminal court yesterday sentenced former Director of Intelligence Salah Nasr to 10 years' imprisonment with hard labour after convicting him on charges of ordering the torture of a journalist in 1968.

Mustafa Amin, co-founder of the Akhbar el-Yom publishing house brought the case against Nasr. The court found Nasr guilty of having ordered Amin to be tortured following his arrest in July 1968 on charges of spying for the U.S. Amin received a 15-year jail term but was pardoned by President Anwar Sadat in April 1974. (UPI)

Beauties converge on Hongkong

HONGKONG. — Twenty-four beauty contestants arrived in Hongkong on Friday to vie for the title of Miss Universe 1976 between July 3 and 11. Among them was Rana Messinger, Miss Israel.

Miss Israel, Rana Messinger (left), and Miss Iceland, Guamunda Hilda Johannsdottir, wish each other good fortune in Hongkong, the scene of this year's Miss Universe Pageant. (AP radiophoto)

Four dead, 30 injured in Ulster

BELFAST. — Four persons were killed and 30 were injured and hospitalized in another outbreak of sectarian violence on Friday night in Northern Ireland.

Three people — a 54-year-old man, a 20-year-old woman and a 17-year-old youth — were shot dead just before midnight when gunmen burst into a Protestant-owned bar in Temple Patrick, County Antrim, 16 kms. north of Belfast, and fired indiscriminately into the crowd before escaping in a waiting car.

Police believe the attack was a reprisal by Roman Catholic extremists for a bombing earlier Friday night at a Catholic-owned tanning lodge bar in West Belfast which injured more than 20.

The fourth fatality was a 20-year-old Catholic man who was stabbed to death. A British army patrol spotted two men dumping the body in a vacant lot three kms. north of the centre of Belfast, but were unable to catch the men.

Two Catholic teenagers were knifed by a gang of youths near the scene of the fatal stabbing. (AP, UPI)

UK: PLO must accept Israel

UNITED NATIONS. — Britain told the UN Security Council on Friday that the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) "must accept the reality of Israel's existence."

"Without this acceptance, there clearly cannot be any prospect of a peaceful settlement," Ambassador Ivor Richard said as he explained his government's views on the Palestinians' right to return to their homeland.

Richard said at the same time that Israelis "should be ready to recognize the rights of the Palestinian people and to accept that Palestinian nationalist sentiment will have to be taken into account in a settlement."

Israel is boycotting the Council debate on a report by the UN Palestinian Rights Committee. It contains recommendations for a timetable for Israeli withdrawal from the administered Arab territories by June 1, 1977 and a two-stage plan for return of the Palestinians to their "homes."

Ambassador Louis de Guiringaud of France said the committee report ignored one of the main elements of a settlement — the right of every state in the area to secure and recognized boundaries. (AP)

OAU links U.S. to S. Africa riots

PORT LOUIS, Mauritius. — The Organization of African Unity yesterday accused the U.S. of possible collaboration in the recent South African riots and agreed to establish a special committee to work out strategy to topple the Pretoria government.

The OAU's annual meeting also condemned Washington for "frustrating the aspirations of the Third World" at the UN and began work on an amendment to the UN charter to eliminate the veto power.

Spokesman Peter Onu said the OAU was "not surprised the recent massacres were carried out after U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger visited Africa and then met with South African Prime Minister John Vorster."

When asked to elaborate, Onu said, "I guess the (OAU) members were thinking of possible collaboration." He added, "many felt the events were linked by the timing but there was no specific condemnation of the U.S. at the closed door meeting."

Onu said the meeting agreed on five principles on South Africa: Establishment of a special committee to review the situation; isolation of South Africa through an economic boycott; increased support for liberation movements in South Africa, Namibia (Southwest Africa) and Rhodesia (Zimbabwe); a concerted diplomatic and political programme by the OAU against Pretoria, and strengthening of the so-called frontline states on the South African borders. (UPI)

Shots in Athens

ATHENS. — Shots were fired at a branch office of the pro-Moscow faction of the Greek Communist Party early yesterday and party officials said one youth was wounded.

Police confirmed the incident and said no arrests had been made. A party spokesman blamed the Greek government for cultivating an anti-Communist atmosphere which led to the attack. (AP)

Pan Am bomb

NEW YORK. — A sachet of dynamite exploded early Friday at the Pan American World Airways Building, no one was injured.

A security guard found the sachet containing four or five sticks of dynamite and a timer inside the building. He cleared the area before the device exploded and his action prevented injury to about 25 persons in the area.

A man saying he represented "Save Our Israel Land" called the AP and said his group had bombed the Pan Am Building.

London heatwave

LONDON. — The British capital sizzled yesterday as the temperature hit a record 95 degrees Fahrenheit (35 degrees centigrade) — hotter than cities like Bangkok and Miami, the Weather Centre reported.

"It's the highest temperature since our records started in 1848 and about five degrees below the all-time high record in Kent in 1868," a spokesman said.

The heatwave, which has had most of Europe sweltering for the last week, brought out the girls' Construction workers in central London spent most of the day ogling bare-breasted jodelers sunbathing on rooftops. In Copenhagen, male temperatures shot up as hundreds of girls sunbathed topless in public parks. (AP)

Diplomatic pincher

WIMBLEDON. — An Egyptian Embassy official was arrested on Friday for pinching girls' bottoms at the lawn tennis championships, but he claimed diplomatic immunity and was released.

"We had to let him go," police said. "It meant he virtually had a licence to carry on." Egyptian Ambassador Mohamed Sami Anwar said he thought bottom-pinching was "disrespectful to women," but did not indicate what action if any was taken. (AP)

THE TWISTS AND TURNS OF ARAB ALLIANCES

Veteran Middle East observers, and even diplomats, who like to see the moves neatly diagrammed in advance like top chess players, found it difficult to orient themselves last week as political developments and alliances in the Arab scene twisted and turned.

Most attention was focused on the Syrian-Egyptian meeting between Egypt and Syria, which set a joint political-military council or the revival of their alliance. The previous alignment, established for the 1973 confrontation with Israel, as shattered at the height of the Yom Kippur War, then further disintegrated last September over Syria's objections to Egypt's interim settlement with Israel. The alliance was aggravated later by Cairo's suspicions of Syria's projected union with Jordan and most recently by Egypt's opposition to Syria's military intervention in Lebanon.

passage of Israeli goods across the Suez Canal, under the Sinai accord. Apart from these patriotic desires, Damascus quest for the reconciliation seemed to be aimed mainly at pacifying Cairo's vigorous opposition to the Syrian intervention in Lebanon. It should also be recalled that another Arab state — neighboring Iraq — was doing everything in its power to hasten the downfall of Assad's regime in Damascus.

The new Egyptian-Syrian rapprochement did not appear to be restraining Damascus from carrying on with its Lebanese adventure, which is part of the "Greater Syria" dream embracing also Jordan.

WEEK IN REVIEW

By ANAN SAFADI

The contrary seems to be true. The Syrians were now "withdrawing" from Lebanon in favour of no other than their own battalions disguised as part of an Arab League "peace-keeping" force embracing token units from other Arab countries such as Libya, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and Algeria.

Despite Egyptian assurances given to the PLO, including those provided yesterday at a meeting between Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmy and Yasser Arafat in Cairo, the Syrians were seen to be still pursuing active intervention. They make no secret of their determination to end the 16-month civil war there, maintain the status quo between Christians and Moslems and contain the PLO and its ally — leftist chief, Kamal Jumblatt, a dihard socialist and millionaire recluse rolled into one, who opposes Damascus.

But twists and turns on the part of Syria may still take place, as an early end to the Lebanese war seemed to be nowhere in sight in view of yesterday's outburst of large-

scale fighting in Beirut and other Lebanese districts. The renewed clashes in fact underscored the gap still separating the original protagonists — Christians fighting to retain their grip on government and the economy, and possibly partitioning the country to maintain their own sovereignty — and the PLO-leftist camp battling for power and independent existence.

One interesting theory that emerged over the weekend among Middle East observers was that the Lebanese crisis was being now tackled within the framework of the renewed Egyptian-Syrian rapprochement, which in turn was boosted by the U.S. with the aim of laying the groundwork for further peace progress in the region.

The scenario of this theory had it that the State Department has been behind the Kuwaiti-Saudi Arabian initiative which brought about the reconciliation between Egypt and Syria. The reconciliation undermined a recent Libyan attempt to drag Syria into a pro-Soviet radical camp, which calls for coordination with Iraq and Algeria in the confrontation with Israel.

This theory triggered two major questions. The first was what price could have been pledged by the U.S. which seemed to be flirting with the PLO after giving this movement undue credit for helping last week's evacuation of foreigners from Beirut. This credit was even more peculiar since it followed the murder of two American diplomats alleged to have been assassinated by the PLO itself.

The second question is what intrigues could the Soviets be getting up to, now that they, quite paradoxically, have just embraced Syria's closest ally — King Hussein of Jordan. The latter, who is due to wind up tomorrow an 11-day tour of the Soviet Union that included talks on purchase of arms, yesterday proclaimed that he wanted the world to know that he was returning home as an avowed friend of the Soviet Union.

The U.S. role in Lebanon

By PATRICK SEALE

THE MESSAGE that has emerged from the top-level crisis talks at the White House and the State and Defense Departments following the murder of two American diplomats in Lebanon is that the U.S. is determined to end the civil war in Lebanon on American terms — that is by defeat for the revolutionary Left and its Palestinian allies, and restoration of "Lebanese democracy."

U.S. officials interpret the murder of Ambassador Francis Meloy and Economic Counselor Robert Waring as political intimidation: an attempt by the Left in Lebanon to trigger off a mass evacuation of all U.S. citizens (not much more than 100 left in the weekend evacuation), the closure of the Beirut Embassy, and the disengagement of the U.S. from the conflict. This would allow the Leftist alliance to turn the tables on the Syrians and leave it the master of the field. If this is the case, the calculation of the U.S. is that it has badly miscalculated.

When President Hafiz Assad's invasion of Lebanon earlier this month ran into a political storm as well as into tough resistance on the ground, there was indication in Washington. Some U.S. officials predicted that "in months a substantial stabilization could occur" as a result of Syria's armed intervention.

What form is U.S. backing for Syria likely to take? The consensus among Arab diplomats at the UN is that the U.S. will try to ensure continued "international tolerance" for Syria's role in Lebanon.

This is taken to mean:

(a) That the U.S. will continue to guarantee Israeli non-intervention. One of the reasons Syria's invasion was so long delayed and so cautiously deployed was that Kissinger had difficulty in "re-educating" and reassuring the Israelis about Syria's intentions.

(b) That the U.S. will seek to prevent Syria's "isolation" in the Arab world, for no regime in Damascus can long survive the sustained hostility of all the Arab States. This axiom is well understood in the State Department. Hence American anxiety for Assad in the immediate aftermath of Syria's invasion and American intervention on Syria's behalf with Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states, and also with Algeria and the Sudan.

It is astonishing to see the extent to which the U.S. now plays "honest broker" in the region, not only between Israel and the Arabs but between the Arab states themselves. With all the strings in his hands, Kissinger was commended by members of a House Committee on the execution of his policies.

Despite the sombre mood occasioned by the killing of the diplomats, the word from both the State Department and the White House is that conditions are slowly being created for a return to Middle East peace negotiations.

This confidence is not wholly shared by Arab diplomats at the UN. Some concede that Syria now appears to have regained the initiative in Lebanon. They suggest that Assad has survived his early error of refusing to allow the "Arabization" of the Lebanese conflict and that now that other Arab states are involved and are consulting regularly with Syria, Assad's position has eased.

These diplomats point to the evolving role of Premier Abdull-Salam Jalloud of Libya in the crisis: only a short while ago Libya seemed the principal backer of the militant Left. Today Jalloud consults with Christian leaders, is a constant visitor to Damascus and almost seems like Assad's ally.

Assad's domestic position also appears to have strengthened. With his strong Arab sense of mission, he will not easily forgive the Palestinian leadership for calling him a traitor to the Arab cause.

Few UN diplomats expect Assad's self-appointed task of subjugating the Palestinians in Lebanon to be a walk-over. Some regard it as physically and politically unrealistic. Israel Embassy press counsellor Gabriel Padon has been getting telephone queries from British newspapers asking whether Israeli ministers will still stay at the Dorchester. His reply was, "No comment."

appointed chairman of the hotel's board of directors, and company spokesmen have publicly admitted that the Arab purchasers asked specifically for someone who had good Jewish connections. They did not want the Arab involvement to affect the considerable volume of business coming from the Jewish community. Indeed, the Dorchester is popular for Jewish weddings and as venue for Jewish charities. Recently the Weizmann Institute Foundation Dinner was held there in President Katzir's honour.

The Dorchester has a "grand hotel" style history and has been the favourite "home from home" of British aristocrats, Hollywood stars and jet set "beautiful people." The late Queen Mary got stuck in one of its lifts; Elizabeth Taylor always stays in the same sixth floor suite and has brought three of her husbands there, and its regular guests used to include writer Somerset Maugham.

One company spokesman revealed that the hotel staff always keep Arab and Jewish guests on separate floors "to avoid complications." Israel Embassy press counsellor Gabriel Padon has been getting telephone queries from British newspapers asking whether Israeli ministers will still stay at the Dorchester. His reply was, "No comment."

Living invade City of the Dead

By AHMED LUTFY

CAIRO. — The City of the Dead as last got its regular mail service. What next? The living may force their dead ancestors out of the grave.

Cairo is choking with people, and adding an apartment or even a bare room can take months. State planners have forced prices up, and any newly married couple can't find a place to set up house.

A brand-new empty flat commands a key money of between 40,000 and 120,000. A five-room furnished apartment, rents for up to 12,000 a month.

The "City of the Dead" has been a natural magnet for the living. The vast burial ground on the eastern edge of Cairo, where King Farouk is buried, is made up not of simple pits but of elaborate two- and three-room villas decorated with intricate domes. Many of them have tree-shaded courtyards and some have a swimming pool.

An army couldn't have kept the quarters cut, and now 350,000 people live in the City of the Dead. Some tomb-owners who resisted the influx are now thinking of moving to their dead forebears and renting the tombs furnished.

Walking in the early morning through the streets of the city,



one can hear dancing music floating out of crypts, and children play near tombs.

Most Moslem cemeteries consist of simple tombstones and plain earth plots. The extravagance of the City of the Dead came from the Mamelukes, who ruled Egypt from 1250 until 1517 C.E. and built splendid mausoleums and mosques.

The rooms in the tombs were included because Egyptians customarily visit their dead every Friday, during the two major Moslem feasts a year and on the anniversary of the death. An outing to the burial ground lasts all day and often includes a picnic.

'Arab' Dorchester keen to keep Jewish connection

By MARK SEGAL

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

ONDON. — Petrodollars have taken another big bite out of existing London real estate, with the purchase of the Dorchester hotel for \$9m. The announcement came last week after President Shimon Peres left his elegant retreat, at the conclusion of an unprecedented demonstration of British support for Israel during his 11-day stay at the Dorchester. Another well-known Israeli who always stays at this super-luxurious hotel is former Foreign Minister Abba Eban. Ordinary rooms cost £25-29 a night, and suites £50-£150 a night.

The building family of McAlpine, who do a great deal of business in Arab countries, sold this choice property to a group of oil mil-

lionaires from the Persian Gulf and Saudi Arabia, headed by Sheikh Najib Alammuddin, chairman of Middle Eastern Airlines, and Dr. Lucien Dahdah, former Foreign Minister of Lebanon. The hotel was built in 1931, and in 1966, was valued at \$3m; in February of this year, the owners were offered \$6m. by an Arab consortium which the McAlpine family turned down. The new Arab buyers paid over \$8m. in cash and picked up a debt of over \$1m. for decoration and furnishing.

Arabs have been making large-scale inroads into real estate in London in the past few years. Last year they bought the luxurious Park Tower Hotel in Knightsbridge for \$8m.

A prominent name in the business world, Lord Pritchard, chairman of Rothmans International, has been

THIS WEEK at the TEL-AVIV MUSEUM

EXHIBITIONS

Tel Aviv Museum, 27 Sderot Shaul Hamelech
Johanny Freidmanstein, Etchings, Zacks Hall
Noemi Smilensky, Etchings, Graphics Hall
On Monday, June 29, 8.30 p.m., meeting with Noemi Smilensky at her exhibition

The Museum in English Education — an exhibition of the British Council in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, starting Thursday, July 1, 1976

Heleena Rubinstein Pavilion, 6 Rehov Tarbat
Creative Youth at the Tel Aviv Museum, works by pupils of the Museum's Youth Workshop. The pupils will demonstrate printing of woodcuts and etchings. Monday 10.30 a.m.-12.30 p.m., Tuesday 7-9 p.m.

Saturday, July 3, at 11 a.m. "Shebetarbut", New Building, Tel Aviv Museum, 27 Sderot Shaul Hamelech.

Visiting hours at both buildings: Sun., Mon., Wed., Thur., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; (Library 10 a.m.-4 p.m.); Fri., 10 a.m.-1 p.m.; 4-7 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m.-2 p.m. (Library 10 a.m.-2 p.m.). On Sat., July 3, the Museum will be open from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. without charge. Saturday 7-11 p.m. with entrance fee.

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Propaganda war in Beirut

By COLIN SMITH AND JOSEPH FITCHETT

conspicuously omitted any combat reporting from Lebanon. Nevertheless, there is no doubt that the Palestinian propaganda machine, designed to take on its formidable Israeli counterpart, has developed into one of the most potent weapons in their armoury. It is infinitely superior to anything the Syrians have produced.

The PLO has an information cadre that employs about 600 people, some of them attached to missions abroad. Most of their work

is devoted to Arabic broadcasts and publications, primarily intended for Arab audiences in Israel and the occupied territories, the Palestinians say. But there is also a foreign section working in English and French.

Everyday Wafa, the Palestinian news agency, leaves a stack of its mimeographed news bulletin at the reception desk of the Palestinian-owned hotel where most journalists are staying. The Wafa bulletin gives the Palestinian version of the latest political and military events, and is rarely shorter than 10 foolscap pages. It is written in a terse, professional style which usually eschews the overblown claims or eccentric English that robbed similar attempts by both sides in the Indo-Pakistani war of much credibility.

The Wafa communiqués are produced by a small team headed by a dapper, young Yale-educated Palestinian called "Rashid," who works in an office hung with maps of Israel and North Korean calendars, supervising a team of young Palestinian women who translate the military news and political commentary into English. Production conditions are less than ideal. Changes of typeface within a single item often reflect unexpected power cuts which force the Wafa office to switch to manual methods.

Overlapping this central PLO campaign, all the individual groups of the myriad Palestinian resistance and their leftist Lebanese imitators produce their own underground newspapers and ubiquitous posters. Often the mere possession of one of these papers is a reporter's best ticket through a road-block.

However, against the Syrians the Palestinians rate the radio as their most effective weapon. There are three Palestinian radio stations: one recently reopened in Cairo, another in Algiers and the third a clandestine station at a secret location somewhere in Lebanon. The station in the Lebanon broadcasts English news bulletins twice a day and one in French in the evening.

For the rest of their transmission time — about 11 hours — they transmit in Arabic news, commentary, patriotic ballads, and Palestinian poetry of which there is a great deal. They also telephone people in besieged areas in Israel and hand out news of the fighting. All these broadcasts are in medium wave and can be listened to in most parts of Syria. At the Information Centre, the Palestinians claim that the Syrian security police have now formed a special squad which is touring the country confiscating powerful radios capable of picking up theirs and foreign transmissions. Certainly, this is the kind of impact they would like to be having on Syrian society. (Ofns)

Financial differences hold up UAE union

ABU DHABI.

THE RULERS of the seven member states of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are under increasing pressure to take the final plunge towards union.

Their own appointed representatives in the Federal National Assembly are urging them to commit the majority of their income to the federation.

But most observers expect the Assembly to end its term this month without approving a permanent constitution for the UAE because of persistent differences over finance.

The UAE has, however, progressed much further towards union than anyone thought possible when the federation was declared on December 2, 1971, two days after the withdrawal of the British power which dominated these parched Arabian desert states for 150 years.

The biggest obstacle to union was thought until recently to be the reluctance of UAE rulers to give up control of their separate armed forces. But these were merged six weeks ago in a major breakthrough for the federation.

Officials in this oil-rich state, therefore, make light of financial differences.

They admit that a permanent constitution for the UAE might not be ready by the December deadline set in the provisional constitution, as the Assembly which needs to discuss the draft is not due to meet again before December. They expect the Supreme Council of UAE rulers to extend present arrangements for a year.

"The UAE is here to stay. We have moved a long way since 1971 and although the pace appears to be slow, the commitment towards federation is now irreversible," according to an adviser to UAE President Sheikh Zaid Bin Sultan.

But members of the 40-man Assembly, chosen by the rulers of each emirate according to its political weight, appear to be less satisfied with the pace of federal progress.

Although they have no power to block legislation, members have been outspoken in their criticism of government action during televised assembly debates this year, which have aroused much interest in the country.

Discussions came to a head last month during a debate on the federal budget when members insisted on knowing why Abu Dhabi appeared to be virtually shouldering the whole burden of federal expenditure, estimated this year at 4,150 million dirhams (£600m.).

"It is unacceptable that we should depend completely on one emirate," declared Ahmed Sulaiman al-Jaber of the small state of Um al-Quwain.

"The federation is of supreme importance. All the emirates should contribute towards its budget," argued Ahmed Bou Shihab of Ajman.

Even the most enthusiastic federalist among UAE rulers, Sheikh Sultan Bin Mohammed al-Qasbi of Sharjah, has argued that not all the UAE states should be required to contribute. (Reuters)

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TELEVISION

EDUCATIONAL: 08.40 Special education. 18.00 Handiwork. 18.20 Documentary: On Taiwan. 18.30 The Odyssey, part I.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES: 17.30 Teleplay. 18.00 Rhythmic. 18.30 News roundup. 18.32 Lamee.

19.00 Documentary: On rattlesnakes. 19.30 News and weekly magazine. 20.00 THE NEWS: 20.00 News resume at 20.00 with Youth magazine. 20.30 All in the Family: Archie and the Contract.

21.00 Mabat newsworld. 21.30 Second Look: Programmes of news background and analysis. 22.00 Documentary: Clio and John — An intimate look at the professional and private lives of jazz musicians Clio and John.

22.30 Country Matters: a series of stories set in rural England by H.E. Bates and A.E. Coppard. Sixth story: Breezes Anate.

JORDAN TV (official): 17.30 Cartoons. 17.35 "The Wonderful World of Disney." 18.30 News in Hebrew. 19.00 News in Arabic. 19.30 Shirley's World. 20.00 Shirley's World. 20.15 Shirley's World. 21.00 News in English. 21.15 Kojak.

* Shows with asterisks are also on JTV 2.

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1400 El Al 344 Tehran.
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1600 TWA 804 New York, Paris.

USINESS & FINANCE

LANDS ADMINISTRATION TAKEN TO TASK

THE ISRAEL LANDS Administration is in the news, a result of the Arab strikes and riots against expropriation. The man in the street got the mistaken impression that the body's major purpose was to grab private land — and in particular land for political reasons.

Expropriation of private land is marginal importance for the Administration for the simple reason that it is the nation's largest landowner. Private ownership comprises more than 10 per cent of the land (though its share is bigger in the central region). Developers and others have therefore persistently ignored the Administration to sell me State land for their pet schemes.

Only in special cases does it require private land — when a publicly sponsored project is blocked by a shortage. In these cases too, it prefers to purchase that land in an ordinary way. When expropriation is resorted to, the land is assessed, and the owner is paid its open market price. In the acquisition in Gush Dan, the owners were given the option of cash or an equivalent plot of land. It goes without saying that no distinction was made between Jewish and Arab landowners.

Over the past 10 years acquisitions averaged about 7,000 dunams annually. About one half, across the entire land (mainly near Jerusalem), was mostly expropriated.

Of the land acquired in Israel over expropriations accounted for one half. The purposes ranged from settlement (of Jews and Arabs) to power stations, hotels, airports, and nature reserves.

It is also called in to defend the state's title to land. Ownership of ancestral tracts (estimated at 50,000 dunams in the North and 15,000 in the South) has not been openly established. In the administered territories it is one of the land total, with the military government acting as the heir to the Jordanian and Egyptian administrations. Since land is a valuable asset, and prices are rising rapidly, would owners spare no effort to prove evidence of their rights — true acquisitions, — and the Lands Administration must join the scramble, defend State ownership, just as must fend off unscrupulous squatters State property.

But its main purpose is to administer the publicly owned land for a common good, making sure the land is used properly, and skimming windfall gains to the public purse.

By MOSHE ATER
Jerusalem Post Economic Editor

Between 1959 and 1974 the general price level just about quadrupled, while prices of flats advanced nine times, and urban land values fourteen times. Throughout our economic boom and slowdowns, investment and speculation in real estate have played a pivotal role.

For this reason one could have expected the Israel Lands Administration to become both an effective planning instrument, and a major source of state revenue. That this has not been the case must be considered one of its foremost failures. Up to a few years ago the administration was managed in the slovenly tradition of JNF. There was virtually no control of the actual use of the land leased, and of the income derived from it. Clever fixers could almost freely convert agricultural land into building plots, or dispose of land leased for their own use and pocket the increase in value.

Even when this did not take place, rentals were ridiculously low. In fiscal 1973-74, rentals collected by the administration amounted to IL107m., including IL17.2m. from agricultural land (i.e. 2 per cent of the farmers' net income) and IL93.4m. from urban land (that is, 1.5 per cent of the nation's housing bill). It goes without saying, that these amounts were insignificant compared to the profits made by realtors and by regular property owners. It is also obvious that the administration's inefficiency in this respect has been one of the major reasons for the prevalence of land speculation, with its widely-felt adverse social effects.

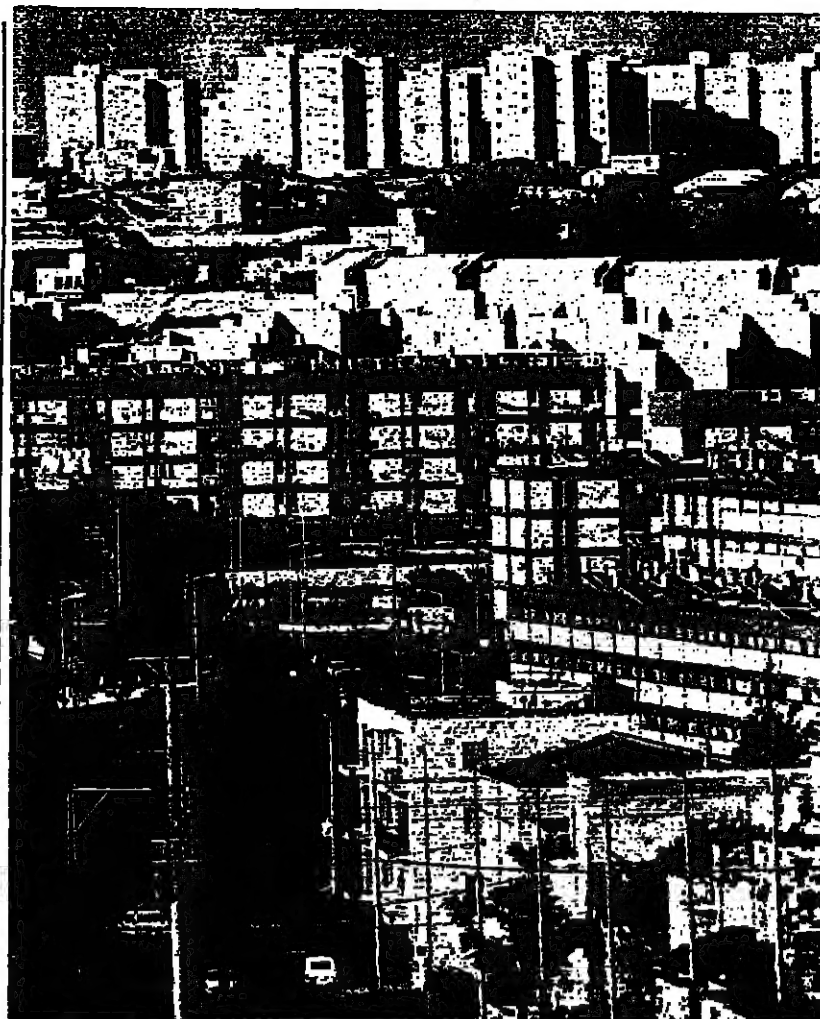
It is only recently that a new wind is blowing at the administration, with the appointment of Aluf (Res.) Meir Zorea as director. For the first time stock has been taken of the existing rights and properties. A new system for evaluation of urban plots — based on current market prices — has been introduced. Rural rentals have been upped.

Court action has been taken against lessees violating their contracts. An example are the tenants of citrus groves who were evicted for failing to cultivate the groves in order to have them re-classified as arable land, fit best for building. Detailed urban development plans have been worked out for a number of precincts in several towns, and a start was made with a national plan for long-term urban settlement. Already in 1974-75 the administration's rental income doubled. In 1975-76 it soared again. More important: housing projects in a number of development towns are beginning to proceed in an orderly manner, with less speculative gains, but higher quality in the buildings. And this improvement is achieved at smaller overall costs.

It goes without saying that this new approach is not welcomed by the vested interests concerned, in particular by lessees who find their speculative hopes dashed. Oddly, however, its main opponent turns out to be the Housing Ministry, which is for the first time faced with independent development plans, not biased by commercial or partisan considerations, and is forced to adjust its building programmes to national priorities, instead of the contrary policy it has been pursuing to date.

Under the Ministry's system, contractors could get hold of land at well below market value — in particular in the bigger towns and earn handsomely on it even if they offered their flats at cheap prices. According to administration estimates, the resulting subsidy per flat came close to IL30,000 in Netanya, Rehovot, Rishon LeZion, in 1972-73, but to double that amount in North Tel Aviv. It was negligible in Kiryat Shmona or Beit Shean. It is small wonder that young couples and others preferred to buy the expensive, but heavily subsidized, flats in Tel Aviv and its vicinity rather than cheaper ones in development towns, which were not offered at bargain prices.

Thus the Housing Ministry's policy acted counter to the official population dispersal programme. The Housing Ministry's programme till 1980 envisages the conversion to building sites of no less than 11,500 dunams of farm land in the coastal region — instead of the 850 dunams suggested by the Lands Administration. This plan does not take into account the reserve of private land available there, which can accommodate some additional 400,000 dwelling units. In land use and housing — as in other fields — the policy we have maintained to date has been that of squandering our scant resources by offering them on the cheap, and letting private interests make huge profits at the expense of the public. The attempt to stop the rot is likely to cause misunderstanding, even consternation. It should be understood, however, that the current bias and cry against the Israel Lands Administration is but a smoke-screen laid down by the real estate lobby.



Four decades of Jerusalem's housing development are caught in this telescopic photo taken by David Rubinger, looking north-east along Rehov Yirmiyahu and Rehov Bar-Ilan. In the lower right corner are houses of the Bokharan quarter, built in the late 1930s, with others built in the 1960s. Filling the picture's middle ground are the fortress-like, fieldstone-faced tenements along Rehov Shmuel Hanavi, which until 1967 formed part of the capital's border with Jordan. Above them are houses of the recent Ma'alot Daphna development, topped by the massive blocks of the French Hill development, started after the Six Day War.

Housing sales steady

By ERMIE MEYER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The market for private apartments during the first quarter of this year was marked by three factors: steady sales, a decrease in the number of new flats offered for sale, and a decrease in the stock of unsold flats.

During the first three months of this year about 3,000 new flats put up by private builders were sold in the big cities. This figure is similar to those of the last three quarters of 1975. It is higher, however, than the first quarter of 1975, when only 2,600 flats were sold, the Central Bureau of Statistics reports. About 2,800 of the total have the 3,000 flats sold in the first

quarter of this year fall short of sales in 1974, when 3,500 to 4,500 units were sold in each quarter.

It is also noteworthy that this year's sales concentrated in Haifa and in the Dan area cities, while the number of new flats offered for sale, and a decrease in the stock of unsold flats.

The number of new flats offered for sale this quarter came to 9,800, compared with 10,000 to 10,600 each quarter during last year. During 1974 units for sale ranged between 12,300 and 14,000 a quarter. Of the 6,800 unsold flats at the end of March about 80 per cent are in the early stages of construction. About 2,800 of the total have the 3,000 flats sold in the first

Largest stock issue floated tomorrow

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Bank Hapoalim, which this year ranked 114th among the world's 300 largest banks, is coming out tomorrow with the single largest securities issue ever floated on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange.

The bank's balance sheet has grown by almost 22 times in the past seven years. Its consolidated total assets reached IL42.5 billion at the end of 1975.

In view of this rapid growth the management has found it necessary to carry out a substantial broadening of the bank's capital base. The current issue aims at mobilizing IL320m. from the public. It consists of IL125m. of IL1 nominal value shares, priced at 235 per cent, and IL25m. deferred capital notes, or options, as they are generally known. Options are offered on the basis of one to a buyer of five common shares. In view of the previous success of a similar floatation, 40 per cent of the total issue has already been subscribed by institutional investors.

Purchasers of common shares will be entitled to 50 per cent of any cash dividends to be paid in 1976. The options are the added factor, which in all probability will result in an oversubscription of the present issue. Purchasers pay IL1 for each

option. Over a period of five and a half years they are entitled to convert it by paying IL1.40 and in return getting one common share. Of interest both to local and overseas investors is the growth in the value of the bank's shares over the past four years, which has averaged in excess of 33 per cent for each year.

Bank Hapoalim at present has 236 branches in Israel. The group includes 17 branches of the American Israel Bank Ltd., 10 branches of Eilat Bank Ltd., and one branch consisting of the Israel Continental Bank Ltd.

In the past fiscal year the bank's management gave priority to the development of its international business. The New York branch, opened towards the end of 1974, ended last year with conspicuous success. A second branch was opened in London last year. Towards the end of 1975 a new bank, wholly owned by Bank Hapoalim, was founded in Zurich under the name of "Bank Hapoalim (Switzerland) Ltd."

The growth of the bank may perhaps be best envisaged when comparing the pertinent profit figures. In 1970 the bank's profit before taxes, were IL18m. In 1975, the pre-tax profit amounted to IL450m.

Pocket fire extinguishers

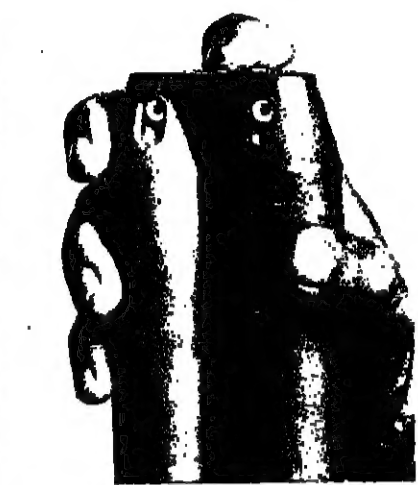
By YITZHAQ OKED
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Firejet is a new type pocket-size fire extinguisher which was first manufactured to be easily carried by soldiers. It is now on the commercial market, for use as fire protection in automobiles and in the home.

The man who developed the Firejet is Albert A. Almouli, owner of the Alchem chemical plant, manufacturers of aerosols. He told The Jerusalem Post that the total weight of the gadget is 420 grams, with the net fire extinguishing agent accounting for 300 grams. Firejet can easily extinguish fires in car engines and small fires in homes or laboratories and workshops.

Mr. Almouli said that Firejets will retail for IL35, the export price being about \$2 per unit.

The factory guarantees its extinguisher for three years (if not used) but the spray is expected to be effective even after five years. The extinguishing agent is effective in putting out fires of all kinds, such



as those fed by petrol, kerosene or rubber. Sprayed on burning flesh the extinguishing agent has a cooling and soothing effect in addition to putting out the flames.

ALL STREET WEEK

June rally halted at 1,000 level

NEW YORK. — The stock market's rally came to a halt last week — the familiar sticking point — 1,000 level in the Dow Jones industrial average. The widely-recognized indicator of stock prices, which had climbed 37.98 points in the two previous weeks, ended 2.04 to 999.84.

Standard and Poor's 500-stock index eased .04 to 103.72, while the New York Stock Exchange's composite index of more than 1,500 common stocks edged up .05 to 35. Big board volume tapered off a daily average of just over 19 billion shares, down from about 20 billion the previous week. Analysts said the week's eco-

nomics news mostly worked in the market's favour. Indications from the credit markets were that the Federal Reserve was holding to a moderate credit policy and working to keep interest rates steady. The Fed's weekly statistical report on Thursday afternoon, showing declines in the basic measure of the money supply and in business loans at major New York banks, suggested that chances were good for continued stability in credit conditions. The government, meanwhile, reported a sharp rise in orders for durable goods orders last month. A less favourable bit of news from Washington came in the Labour

Department report "showing" consumer prices rising at a 7.2 per cent annual rate in May, for the sharpest rise in six months. But the figure wasn't very much higher than Wall Streeters had been expecting.

Most observers agreed that the market's biggest problem was the same internal one that has plagued it for months — stubborn resistance to all its efforts to make a lasting run past the Dow 1,000 mark. Twice last week sellers knocked the average back below 1,000, evidently seeing that level as a kind of upper limit for stock prices for the present. (AP)

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WASTE

No money. That's what the Government tells us time and time again.

They even wanted to cut out the Children's Allocation.

But the National Health Law, now being cooked up in the Knesset Services Committee, ensures that hundreds of millions of pounds will be wasted each year.

While there is talk of unifying the dues collection system in the country in the interests of economy, here we have a proposed law which would have many sectors all busying themselves on the same project: — National Health fees will be collected from the citizen through the various Kupot Holim, through the National Insurance Institute and through the Dues Collection Office of the Histadrut. The independent Kupot Holim are ready and willing to forgo their own collection of dues so that national collection be undertaken entirely by a national body — the National Insurance Institute.

But the Histadrut objects. Why? In order that their Dues Collection Office, already over-staffed and swollen, will become even more so just to be able to collect the insurance dues from the majority of salaried workers in the country, including those who are not members of the Histadrut.

THERE'S A VERY SERIOUS SIDE TO THIS MATTER

— THE HANDLING OF A STATE FUNCTION BY A SECTORAL BODY. But the practical applications of this are even more serious. The Histadrut Dues Collection Office now employs some 1,000 clerks, and who knows by how many more this number will be swollen in order to fill all the "new jobs"? Yet the Director of the National Insurance Institute claims that the country-wide collection of dues by his office can be easily handled by an addition of SIX CLERKS ONLY! The cost of collection without the help of the National Insurance Institute will increase by 11%, while collection through its good offices would only rise by 1/2%! This differential amounts to an astronomical sum of money which, instead of being used for the general improvement of health services, will be thrown down the drain.

Tomorrow, if the National Health Law is passed as is, salaries, car allowances, pensions, holidays, cost of living allowances, and overtime will have to be paid to 994-odd employees of the Dues Collection Office, who are in any case unnecessary. All this to support an inefficient, expensive collection system, which will swallow up the lion's share of National Health dues. And all for the sake of perpetuating political rule over your health.

DON'T RECONCILE YOURSELF TO THIS. DON'T PAY AND DON'T PLAY.

THE PUBLIC COUNCIL — HEALTH LAW

ARAB ZIGS AND ZAGS

COMPLEXITY and surprise seem to follow hard upon the heels of earlier complexity and surprise in the convoluted Lebanese civil war and in the influence it has had on pan-Arab politics. First, Syria, the main prop of the Palestine Liberation Organization, rushed in to save the Lebanese Christians with an attack — only partly successful — on the P.L.O. forces in Lebanon. Then Sadat's Egypt, which earlier had fallen out with the P.L.O., saw its chance to restore its "Palestinian" credentials in the Arab world. It became the major supporter of the beleaguered forces of Arafat in Lebanon.

Now under the aegis of King Khaled of Saudi Arabia, Syria and Egypt — after meetings in Riyadh last week — are trying to lay the groundwork for a reconciliation.

In truth the politics of the Arab world, which are more like domestic politics than relations between states, have always been characterized by such sharp twists and turns. It thus becomes essential for Israel to be able to separate out surface zigs and zags from the deeper, more permanent, trends in the Arab world.

In this regard the term "moderate" which is being used to describe the newly forming bloc of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Egypt, Syria and Jordan, can be misleading. It may be moderate, when seen from Washington, in comparison with Libya and Iraq, whom the U.S. measures by their attitude to the Soviet Union. But it would be risky and premature to make use of the same term to describe the attitude that can be expected to evolve among these countries to Israel.

It is ironic but true that Israel must entertain much greater reservations and suspicions towards the ostensible "moderates" who comprise the Arab confrontation states than towards the extremists. For these are the states capable of inflicting military damage. The extremist states, with their incendiary rhetoric, are too far removed from our borders to pose a genuine threat.

TV OUT OF STEP

REPORTS that the "service messages" screened on nightly television programmes will be increased to 50-70 a month and that the TV management wants to double this come as a timely warning.

The development is an example of how government decisions are often made by default. Formally the Government has clearly rejected the requests of the Broadcasting Authority to permit paid advertising on television. The Authority's decision to permit "service messages" for such bodies as the Mifal Hapayis lottery, the Citrus Marketing Board and others, is a resort to subterfuge in an attempt to get TV advertising in through the back door. Certainly this is not the way public authorities should act, nor is it a desirable example for them to set for the rest of the business community.

As bad as the method is the quality of the "service messages." If they are an example of what we can expect if and when TV advertising is approved, perhaps it is well that we have been forewarned.

ISRAEL PRESS

DAVAT (Histadrut) says the meeting in Riyadh between Egypt and Syria has put an end to the rift between them. However, the paper does not foresee a continuing honeymoon. There are still differences of interest and even suspicion between the two regimes, and all that can be expected is a policy of limited coordination. However this will probably facilitate the implementation of a settlement in Lebanon and lead to another round of political moves with regard to Israel, and Israel must be prepared for this.

HATZOFEN (National Religious) holds that Dr. Kissinger, in an attempt to win Syria away from the Russians, will offer Damascus Israeli compromises. The Secretary of State is aiming for a pro-Western Arab bloc based on Syria, Egypt and Saudi Arabia. The paper sees this development as contradicting Prime Minister Rabin's claim that the achievement of the Sinai accord was the splitting of the Arab world in general. The paper says the coming together of Egypt and Syria has always been bad news for Israel.

HA'ARETZ (Independent) notes that the State Comptroller's report finds

serious shortcomings in connection with the Israel Aircraft Industries' civil aircraft branch. By 1980, hundreds of millions of pounds will have been lost in this connection nor has the development of the "Westwind" and the "Arava" made such a significant contribution to the development of military aircraft, as has been claimed.

"It is strange, therefore, that the company's managing director, Al Schwimmer, claims that the company is doing 'excellent business.' What is so 'excellent' about losses of hundreds of millions of pounds?" The paper calls for a major shakeup in the company's management. "In particular, the managing director and the chairman of the board will have to go."

AL-HAMISHMAR (Mapam) notes on the other hand that stress has been placed mainly on the negative aspects. "It reminds us that the company's Boeing overhaul project a few years ago was the subject of severe criticism as well, yet it proved highly profitable. Nevertheless, the negative criticism cannot be ignored. The government must take the necessary measures to correct what stands in need of correction."

I HOPE that these lines will find their way to the editorial offices of "Izvestia," and to the desk of its political analyst, Vikentii Alexandrovich Matveyev. I interviewed Matveyev in mid-May when he visited Israel at the invitation of Rakhah (the New Communist Party), and our conversation soon turned into a lively debate — to the visible displeasure of his local hosts, who had been careful to schedule individual interviews for him, rather than exposing him to a combined onslaught of Israeli reporters that might be expected at a press conference. They were even unhappy that we spoke directly in English, after I declined their services as translators.

The gaunt, austere Comrade Matveyev started off with a forced smile and, having heard that he was to meet "a girl reporter," he made haste to present me with a Soviet chocolate wafer.

The smile quickly disappeared and his tone became vituperative when I differed with his view that Israelis suffer from an obsessive psychosis and are over-dramatizing the security situation, by insisting that they are surrounded by enemies who do not wish them well. To him, the dangers we perceive are all in our minds, or have, rather, been driven there by panic-mongering Zionist propaganda.

But when we were saying our farewells, my tape-recorder switched safely off and our Rakhah hosts momentarily out of hearing range, he whispered: "You scored some very good points in your argument. I did not hear from Matveyev since, until I read the account of his visit in Israel as it was printed in 'Izvestia.' I don't know why his venomous phrases should come as a disappointment. They are after all just what I should have expected to read in 'Izvestia.' Perhaps it was Matveyev's parting comment, which had left me with the impression that he was not quite convinced by his own words. But whatever it is, I cannot resist writing a reply.

SO, COMRADE MATVEYEV, allow me to answer you from the pages of this paper, as I am not sure that a letter to 'Izvestia' would appear there.

"Izvestia's" political analyst, V. A. Matveyev, visited Israel last month, and the paper published his report of his visit. SARAH HONIG, who interviewed Matveyev at the time, now comments on his article.

A reply to Comrade Matveyev

way I wrote it.

When we met at the Sinai Hotel in Tel Aviv, you expressed concern over the mood of "profound pessimism gripping the nation" and were taken aback by our lack of national unity. You advised more positive thinking along "the democratic, progressive, humanistic lines advocated by Rakhah."

In "Izvestia" your tone is far less compassionate and more jeering. You quote The Jerusalem Post as printing that "the moral state of the inhabitants of Israel, weakened by the constant war, mobilizations and heavy taxes, is nearing a critical point." I don't recall this particular sentence, but even if it did appear, you should not interpret it as an indication of feebleness. We Jews are the complaining people in the world and have been tried as no other. But we also managed, in less than three weeks, to turn a surprise attack on Yom Kippur (by forces proportionately greater than those which Hitler sent against the USSR in 1941) into a brilliant victory.

You bemoan our many strikes. I am not overjoyed about them either. But can Soviet proletarians call a work stoppage even if they want to in the Worker's Paradise?

Besides your monotonous, cliché-ridden accounts of stirring meetings with Rakhah functionaries, you do try to inject a little local colour into your story. But your perception is certainly selective. All that you saw of Tel Aviv were "a lot of banks and at every step young men in military uniform." Capitalism and militarism — right?

Your descriptions of Jaffa's Manshiya Quarter are far more vivid and touching. "It is full of piles of rubble," you tell your shocked readers. "Its Arab inhabitants were driven out and their houses razed

by bulldozers." I guess that only in the Eastern Bloc is there any justification for tearing down ramshackle dilapidated houses as part of urban renewal projects.

But your description continues: "There is only one lonely mosque standing. It will probably not survive either." I am happy to bring glad tidings. Jewish contractors are now going to renovate the mosque, despite Rakhah protests. I wonder how many historic synagogues the Soviet regime has preserved and restored.

The name of the mosque, by the way, is Hassan Bek and no services were held in it for 40 years — long before the Zionist state came into being. And while on the subject, allow me to interject a personal note. My parents lived in a rented room in Tel Aviv before the State of Israel was born and before we became cruel occupiers of Arab territory. For them Hassan Bek is a symbol of death and destruction. This religious shrine, for which your atheist heart bleeds so, was a snipers' nest. From the heights of its minaret, heroic Arab gunmen took potshots at aggressive passers-by on Tel Aviv sidewalks. It was dangerous just to cross the street.

My mother still remembers how she saw her landlord shot dead while standing at the entrance to his house. She herself narrowly escaped the snipers' bullets. My father, who was then serving in the Jewish Defence Forces, implored her to move to a safer spot, but she would "not be a refugee."

This is one of the things that made her different from the Arab residents of Jaffa and that makes them worthy of your outpourings of sympathy. Many of them, incidentally, did not even wait for a counter-attack before fleeing. They left in

orderly convoys, escorted by the British, shortly before Israel's independence was proclaimed. No wonder they were frustrated when their plans to return to a plundered Tel Aviv were foiled. You can ask my mother about those days. She has many vivid first-hand memories.

BUT I DOUBT that you'd be interested. I remember during our conversation how you enthusiastically advocated a return to the 1947 partition lines. When I pointed out that not we but the Arabs opposed them, you preferred to change the subject. I asked you whether you felt you had met the mainstream of the Israeli public and really got to know what the average Israeli thinks. I never did get a straight answer.

In your article the Israeli people are typified by Tawfik Zayyad, Felicia Langer and Giora Neumann. You extol the latter's refusal to serve in the Israel army and condemn his eight-month prison term. Have you ever heard of Yuri Fokh from Odessa? He was exempt from service in the Red Army owing to a heart disease. His application to go to Israel suddenly convinced the authorities that he was fit for combat training. When he demanded a fair medical examination, he was sentenced to 1½ years in jail. Upon the completion of his sentence he was again conscripted and warned that if he insisted on going to Israel he would be imprisoned for another five years.

You were captivated by the "open and energetic face and the aura of calm and confidence spread" by the mayor of Nazareth. He spoke "with fire and passion" of Israeli repression of the Arabs. He also wrote a poem extolling the Yom Kippur attack by the Egyptians. I wonder what would have happened to a

Soviet citizen who wanted to go over the Nazi invasion of Poland, certainly would not have been a mayor. And speaking of repression, who are Hebrew books not reviewed in the USSR, and why are Jewish education and culture outlawed in Israel. There are Arab boys in schools, and even a bottle of Pepsi. Maybe we Jews are easy, you Soviets certainly do not get on from such democratic insanity. It is why you put democrats away in mental hospitals.

You have the "warmest" words about the woman fighter, Felicia Langer... a jurist who for almost 10 years has been appearing in our defending the hounded, persecuted, the oppressed. Some her hapless clients included terror child-killers and those who plotted to resume the interrupted revolutionary mission of the Hash Beks snipers. It is again a testament to our tolerance (or madness) if she is free to argue in our courts.

AND WHILE on the subject of courts, have you heard of a Ukrainian lawyer from Kiev called Yeshov? He defended Jewish activist Alexander Feldman in 1941 when he was charged with multiple hooliganism for allegedly knocking a cake out of a woman's hand right in front of a conveniently waiting KGB car. Feldman was sentenced to 10 years' hard labour on the grounds of "character." And when Yeshov prepared a courageous appeal on his behalf, detailing all the contradictions and flaws in the prosecution case, he was dismissed and then officially "retired" from the Ukrainian Bar.

When we met, you accused me of being a government official. I confess that I am not one of "the tame courageous disinterested patriots you met here." Who fight the blood-gangsters' indefatigably? But I am not a government official. Tigris Alon never so much as offered me a job. And, in all humility, I consider myself a much more typical Israeli than the three patriots you mentioned.

Considering all this, do you suppose that I could tour the USSR at the invitation of a dissident group, as freely as you were allowed to do here?

PEOPLE AND POLITICS

SARAH SHAPIRO

Knesset members deplore the confusion caused by gender

GRAMMAR IS AS GOOD for politics as anything else. We had proof of it in the Knesset the other day, when Shalom Levin — Dr. Shalom Levin, I beg his pardon, he obtained his degree last month — urged the people's representatives to do their best to stop speaking vulgar, ungrammatical Hebrew in the House and when appearing on radio and television.

The purists acclaimed Dr. Levin, but all speakers tried to mind their Hebrew: some brandished their erudition, others quoted the Bible, the Mishna, and (a rabbi) Malmonides. Even the Likud's Yitzhak Moda'i, who vociferously demanded an end to the debate (he claimed it had only been scheduled to avoid discussing the more urgent question of the abolition of purchase taxes), probably had "Divrei Ha-Knesset" in mind when he used the language of the prophets to describe the country's destination.

Looking for scapegoats, Members pointed to the Teachers (the recent reproach by the Prime Minister was repeatedly quoted), to Radio and Television, and to the general laxity of mind in seeking precise definitions for things and processes. Nobody, called this laxity "Levanism," though some deplored the

undue use of foreign words. Only Meir Pa'il, of Moked, found charm in the use of the colloquial on all occasions. So what if Members used foreign words like *individualism*, *metaphysics*, and *ritmus* (rhythm)?

It was difficult to blame the Government for the poverty of Hebrew expression of our politicians, but tangential remarks were not lacking. When Yitzhak Navon recalled how the inhabitants of ancient Beisan, Haifa and Tivon signed by confounding the pronunciation of "alef" and "ayin," whereas the Jews took pains to preserve the differentiation, Menachem Begin quipped: "Well, that's another reason for not returning Judea!"

It was good to be able to sling parables to the Hebrew language, the Unifier of the Inghathered Nation. But nobody seemed to know what to do with the praise or, for that matter, with the litany on the confusion between the genders. Education Minister Aharon Yadin suggested the establishment of a public council ("with funds contributed by the public") to watch over the purity of Hebrew. But nobody commented on this idea.

Apart from the mediocrity of his Hebrew, the typical Knesset

Member is a poor speaker. The greatest Knesset speaker was the late Moshe Shohat, on the extreme left of the opposition, who inevitably drew members into the Chamber when he mounted the rostrum, even though he convinced no one. The oratory of Menachem Begin, on the other extreme of the political spectrum, has lost much of its lustre, he sounds *démoté* and one can predict his reaction to current events quite accurately. The same is true of Shmuel Tamir, another promising speaker.

Indeed, the death of the Knesset is due largely to the predictability of its member's utterances. An observer with only some experience would know right off, even though the subject of the debate was Hebrew grammar, that the Rakhah speaker would accuse the Government of shunning attempts at peace.

One can hardly blame Members, or journalists, for not sitting through the daily marathon of predictable utterance. It is a fact that the House is full when the announced speaker is expected to say something of importance, even if he is a poor orator.

The maxim of Ahad Ha'am, quoted by more than one speaker in the debate on Hebrew, holds good: "Sharpen your mind, the words will take care of themselves."

READERS' LETTERS

THE FOREIGN PRESS AND ISRAEL

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — Not for the first time, I find myself on both sides of an argument, as well as disagreeing with two colleagues in the foreign press corps.

1. Francis O'Grady's contribution (June 18) that a foreign correspondent should be concerned with the image of the country he works in is dangerous. "Image" is a concept of public relations or propaganda. That is not our business. We are concerned with news, interpretation and informed comment. If a government, an army or a police force does something which reflects badly on the country's reputation abroad, it cannot be our job to hush it up. It is surely for the authority concerned to weigh the impact before embarking on a particular course. It may decide that a good or bad press is of secondary importance. That is its prerogative, but it is not for us to make the choice for it.

2. Stewart Kellerman, the fairly new bureau manager of UPI, does the foreign press no service by exaggerating our genuine complaints to the point where he reduces them to absurdity (June 21). Mr. Kellerman ought surely to know that a whole generation of British correspondents has at one time or another been expelled from black and white Africa states. Among colleagues on my own papers, two were lucky to escape with their lives from African prisons (Nigerian and Ugandan); most of the African experts are excluded from South Africa and Rhodesia; and an Arab-

affairs correspondent has been banned from both Syria and Egypt for offending their respective presidents. By contrast, the last time any sanctions were taken against any foreign correspondent by Israel was in 1958, when a man broke censorship and put the lives of an Israeli task force in jeopardy. Even then, he was not charged and was not expelled. He was denied certain working facilities and, after a respectable interval, his organization recalled him. Is this really conduct that bears comparison with a totalitarian regime?

Correspondents in Vietnam, mentioned by Mr. Kellerman, were in an extraordinarily privileged position for a country at war. This had less to do with the dictatorial instincts of President Thieu than with his status as a puppet of the United States.

ERIC SILVER
Staff correspondent,
The Guardian and
The Observer (London).

Jerusalem.

Black Africa

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — As one of the many Black Africans at present in Israel, may I say how happy I was to read your report of June 9 to the effect that Mr. Shlomo Avineri, the Director-General of the Foreign Ministry, had met with the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs to discuss the possibility of Israel resuming diplomatic relations with Black African nations.

As a Sierra Leonean studying in Rome and visiting Israel for the past two months, I am a witness to the fact that Black Africans are neither molested, nor discriminated against in this country. However, all Black Africans in Israel are like children without a father, since they have neither consulates nor embassies to turn to in case of need.

I feel it is important for many reasons that Black African nations should resume diplomatic relations with Israel. Let us pray for the success of Mr. Avineri's diplomatic endeavours.

A. B. STEVENS

Ellat.

DUE PROCESS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, — The selective sense of justice existing at The Jerusalem Post was again shown in your editorial of June 15. Instead of asking how a civilian like Rabbi Moshe Levinger could be brought to a military trial at all, although acquitted by the court, he is to remain guilty to The Post because the charges were "rather narrow" and his actions might endanger "any prospect of peaceful coexistence between Jews and Arabs in this country."

I hope we can assume that these "narrow charges" were based on the preliminary investigation of this case. However, this investigation does not appear to have been very thorough since even the narrow charges did not hold up in court. The record of this trial as described in The Jerusalem Post leaves a reader very uneasy. On April 30, The Post quoted a witness at the trial as testifying that the accusing officer "grabbed Levinger, insulted him, and threatened to put a bullet in his head." On May 21, The Post carried

a story concerning possible lying in the trial when the commander of the Hebron Border Police stated that the Hebron Military Governor gave permission for Kiryat Arba residents to enter the town which was then closed by this same Military Governor. Army officers were described at the trial as "psychopaths" and "megalomaniacs."

Is this not enough evidence to call for an investigation of possible politicization of legal process and of military government in the area?

Dr. ALBERT I. GOLDBERG

Haifa.

PENFRIEND

BERTIE WELIGALLA (23), of Kolonmendiya, Ebbiditaya, Sri Lanka, is a commercial artist who would like to have Israeli penfriends. His hobbies are stamp collecting, swimming and bird watching.

PIET G. VELLEHOOP (21), of Naaldwijksweg 249 A, s Gravenhage 2220, Holland, is studying theology and would like to have Israeli penfriends.

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EXHIBIT OF THE MONTH
Royal Scarabs and jewelry from the "Harry Stern Collection" given to the Israel Museum, until June 30. From July 1: George Romney (1734-1802), Portrait of Miss Abigail Hobart, Gift of the Friends of the Art Museums of London, At Rockefeller: Marble head of Julia Flavia, daughter of Roman Emperor Titus, 70-79, C.E. Gift of Dr. Reaven and Edith Hecht Foundation; Pottery karnos-Early Israelite Period.
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